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Communications relating to the Literary Department, Fishing Tackle for Notice, Books for Review, &c., must be addressed to the Editor of the FISHING GAZETTE, No. 12, Fetter Lane, London, E.C.
Contributions are solicited, but the Editor will not undertake to return rejected MSS. unless accompanied with a stamped addressed envelope.
Correspondents are requested to write on one side of the paper only, and give their real names and addresses, not necessarily as signatures to their letters, but as a guarantee of good faith. Unless this rule be adhered to, no notice will be taken of such communications.
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The Fishing Gazette.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 5, 1884.

THE SURPLUS OF THE FISHERIES EXHIBITION.

THAT up to the present time there has been no complete balance sheet published, showing the expenses and profits of the Great International Fisheries Exhibition, seems to astonish some people. But surely, when the magnitude of the affair and the multiplicity of accounts is taken into consideration, it would have been much more astonishing if such a statement had been published, and still more astonishing if it proved correct.

We have good reason for believing that numbers of accounts are not yet settled; including such important ones as those of the Great Southern Railways. A very large proportion of admissions to the Exhibition were by railway tickets, and the Committee have not yet received a penny of the very large sums due to them on this score alone. These companies made valuable concessions to the Committee, and they know they will be asked to do so again, so that to unduly press them would be as impolitic as it would be useless. Again, those who expect impossibilities from the Committee in this way quite overlook the fact that the engagements and responsibilities of the Committee only cease at the expiration of the three years for which they took the grounds from the Commissioners of 1851, and, consequently, no complete settlement of accounts can be made until after the close of the Inventions Exhibition of 1885. It has, however, been officially stated that as soon as the necessary accounts have been obtained, examined, and passed, a statement showing the financial position of affairs at the close of the Fisheries Exhibition will be published. Even the comparatively very small Edinburgh Fisheries Exhibition took a year to get out its accounts, and the Berlin Exhibition Fisheries of 1880 has not yet published any.

The promptness with which the medals of the London Fisheries Exhibition have been got out and distributed, and the money prizes paid, also contrasts favourably with the time occupied in the case of previous Exhibitions.

LONDON ANGLERS AND THE NORFOLK BROADS.

MR. LARK, secretary of the Yarmouth Angling Society, called on us yesterday, and we regret to hear that our Norfolk brethren are bitterly disappointed at the lack of support they have received from anglers generally, and especially from London anglers, in defending the public right of fishing in the Norfolk Broads; and even promises made have not been fulfilled. The total amount received from the London clubs, each of which has received several applications, is £8 10s. Our Norfolk friends find this the harder because they were offered permission for their club to fish in the waters of Heigham Sound, but they refused on principle, and have been fighting purely in the interests of anglers generally.

At the present moment the case stands thus: The young society has almost exhausted its funds; about £25 or £30 more are required to carry the case to the Court of Queen's Bench, or else the whole thing will fall through; and on this case hangs

the whole question of the right of fishing in the Norfolk Broads. We earnestly appeal to Messrs. Bates, Crumplen, Clench, Lander, Ghurney, Geen, Bonvoisin, Hatfield, Wheatstone, Field, and others who have influence, to take up this matter, and the necessary funds will then be soon forthcoming. Mr. Spreckley has this week very kindly given five guineas, the FISHING GAZETTE gives the same sum, Mr. Jardine one guinea, and we hope when Mr. Lark visits the Piscatorial Society on Monday night, and the Gresham Society on Tuesday night, and other clubs and gentlemen, he will not be sent empty away. In a few years' time Norfolk will offer the nearest and best fishing to London. If we lose it, we shall have only ourselves to thank. The Yarmouth Club has raised about £50 already.

SOME RESULTS FROM FISH CULTURE.

THE following account of the manner in which fishing in the river Langballigau has been improved by fish culture is very interesting. Mr. Hinkelmann, manager of the fish breeding establishment at Flensburg, says (in the *Deutsche Fischerei Zeitung* of Dec. 25th) the efforts to increase the stock of fish have been extraordinarily successful. In the lower portion of the Langballigau, not far from its mouth, in still weather, whole swarms of young trout may be seen; and higher up the river at different places such a wealth of fish life is to be found that it would seem that, in order to get a living, the big ones have no choice but to feed on their younger relations.

This fact teaches us plainly that it is far better that there should be a small fish hatchery on each stream suited to it, than that it should be stocked from some distant establishment. The cost of such hatchery would well repay the trouble and cost of making it, as is proved by the following table of results achieved on the Langballigau.

According to the statements of fish breeder Tönningsen there were caught in this river in the years—

	lbs. of salmon.	Value	marks
1878	224	112	marks
1879	243	149	"
1880	469	339	"
1881	1,146	971	"
1882	809	892	"
1883	1,495	1,176	"

The net fishermen at the mouth of the river caught in

	lbs. of salmon
1882	980
1883	1,074

This shows an improvement in the salmon fishery alone of about 500 per cent.

THE NATIONAL FISH CULTURE ASSOCIATION.

THE Marquis of Exeter has consented to accept the position of Chairman, and Mr. Edward Birkbeck, M.P., that of Vice-Chairman, of the Council of the National Fish Culture Association. Sir James Gibson Maitland, Bart., was compelled to resign the chairmanship, as his residence in Scotland prevented his attendance at the meetings, and Mr. Francis Francis was unfortunately obliged by ill-health to resign the vice-chairmanship. We understand that the Fishmongers' Company have voted £25 towards the expenses of the Association at South Kensington.

MR. KELSON'S ARTICLES ON SALMON FISHING.

WE regret that, in consequence of the illustrations for the descriptions of the casts not being ready, we have to hold over Mr. Kelson's article.

NOTICE.

WE regret to say that a packet of River and Club Reports, Correspondence, Notes, &c., for last week's issue of the GAZETTE, was lost after leaving the Editor's hands and before reaching the Printer; consequently our River and Club Reports were few in number last week and some important letters and notes did not appear.

DESTRUCTION OF OTTERS IN HANOVER.

FROM the *Deutsche Fischerei Zeitung* we see that from the 1st of November, 1882, to last of October, 1883, four hundred and fifty-one otters were killed in the province of Hanover, £135 being paid as premiums for their heads, the expenses being borne half by the State and half by the province. The waters of Hanover must be well stocked with fish, or there would never be such an abundance of otters.

THE EDEN, CARLISLE—PROSPECTS FOR NEXT SEASON.

DURING the past year there has been an extraordinary supply of salmon in almost all the rivers of Great Britain, and the Eden has been no exception to the rule. The nets had a rare harvest, and the rod-fishers had good sport, especially in the autumn, when the extra fourteen days in November proved a great boon. The river was in fair order during the greater part of the last four weeks of the season, and numbers of fish were brought to bank, including a few "virgin," or what are commonly called "spring" fish. As to the prospects for next season, these mainly depend upon the extent of the disease. At present there is not so much of it visible as there was this time last year. A few fish, unmistakeably marked with the disease, are to be seen amongst the numbers that are still on the spawning beds, and about a score of diseased kelts have been taken out of the river by the bailiffs; but I have not heard of a single tainted spring fish having been seen, though there are plenty in the river. If this state of things continues we ought to have a grand opening of the season on February 16th; but I am afraid that when the diseased fish have spawned, and drop down into the pools as weakly kelts, they will spread the scourge amongst those now sound. The river is now in grand order for fish-spawning, as it is only of moderate size, and the ova deposited now should do well; but unless there is a rise of a foot or so shortly, a great deal of the ova spawned during the latter part of November and first half of December will be wasted. The river was then heavy, and many fish spawned on the stream edges, which are now barely covered with water. Another week of dry weather will bring their labour to nought. To have a perfect spawning season we want good ramming waters in October to let the fish up, and then low waters to keep them within the proper channel of the river, which never runs dry.

At the last meeting of the Eden Conservancy Board the alterations of By-laws were proposed, which are of much interest to anglers. One was that the use of the gaff should be allowed until Nov. 15 instead of Nov. 1st. This alteration should have been made when the angling season was extended to the later date, but the matter was overlooked at the time; and when it was brought up as a natural corollary, the representatives of the net fishers actually showed their petty spite by voting against the motion, and, as the upper proprietors, as usual, did not attend, we were beaten. However, we can depend upon it that Mr. Slater, the honorary secretary of the Angling Association, will bring the matter forward again and again, if necessary, till it is put straight. The use of the gaff is not allowed till after July 1st simply to protect the kelts from harm when they are landed in the spring; but in the autumn, when all fish can be taken, it is absurd to stop the use of it.

The other was a proposal by the netting fraternity to reduce the minimum size of mesh from 2 inches to 1½ inch, knot to knot, or 7 inches round instead of 8 inches during the whole season. I should explain that a few years ago leave was granted to use a 1½ inch mesh from May 15th to July 15th, so as to get hold of the bulk of the salmon trout, that being the period when they are most numerous. This was hotly opposed at the time by the anglers, but it was carried against them, and the result has been that only about one-sixth of the number are taken with the rod that used to be caught before the alteration. Still, the smaller fish get through the nets in the first fortnight in May, and this alteration would have taken the greater part of these from the anglers. Fortunately, there was a split in the opposite camp, and Mr. Slater succeeded in defeating them. He showed that, unlike salmon, the supply of salmon trout has diminished during the last three years, and attributed this falling off to over-fishing. On the whole, there seems a fair prospect for anglers in the coming season.

SILVER GREY.

A STRAY LEAF OUT OF MY FISHING BOOK.

NEARLY a quarter of a century ago a young friend from Australia and myself started off on a tour through Wales, taking a fishing-rod with us in readiness for "anything that might turn up" in the piscatorial line on our route. He had never been in England before, and had never handled a rod, but was a keen sportsman withal, fond of kangaroo-hunting, and a dead shot at quail. I am not going to bore my readers with such a threadbare subject as "a tour through Wales," or "a fortnight with the Welsh," but will at once take them to a quiet little spot, little visited by the ordinary run of tourists or cockneys, where we found ourselves by accident one wet day about the end of June or beginning of July. The state of the weather compelled us to make inquiries for some nearer shelter than the Golden Lion, at Dolgelly. As good luck would have it, we found an English-speaking subject of Her Majesty, who recommended us to turn off the main road and make for the little inn at Tal-y-llyn, at the foot of the pretty little Lake of that name, which nestles at the southern base of Cader Idris. An hour by the kitchen fire, aided by "something hot" which the

kind-hearted landlady brewed for us, put us thoroughly to rights within and without; and as the rain had by this time ceased, we determined to try the new rod on the lake, while the "Genius loci"—the presiding "power" in the kitchen we had just left—was preparing our dinner. We found a boat and ready boatman to pull us about from one good fishing-ground to another. My friend, who could not have thrown a line if he had been standing on his legs on *terra-firma*, made frightful work of it sitting down in the boat, knotting up his line at every cast, and spending at least five minutes each time in unravelling it, bringing it down when he *did* get another throw with a thud and a splash that must have sent every respectable trout we came near from one side of the lake to the other. By the time we got to the head of the lake he had not, of course, risen, or hooked, or caught a single fish. I tried my hand at it on the way back, and managed to secure half-a-dozen very nice trout, the first I had seen or captured for seven or eight years, having been absent from England the whole of that time. On our return to the hotel we found our dinner ready, and an old gentleman from the neighbourhood of Birmingham just arrived, anxious to join us. He was the only other visitor besides ourselves, and informed us that he came there regularly every year for a fortnight or three weeks to enjoy the fishing. He told such stories about the trout and salmon in the stream running from the lake to the sea, that we required very little persuasion to remain over the next day and try our luck. The only rod I could borrow was a very rickety one belonging to the parish clerk, with a rotten line, a reel that would not spin, and flies that had been washed and battered by frequent use out of all similitude to any insect ever witnessed by trout. It was, however, better than none at all.

We started early in the morning, taking a trap for about four miles down the stream. My Australian friend soon commenced work in earnest, cracking his line as if it had been a stock-whip, and losing his tail fly at the first cast. I tied another on for him and set him up again, but before I could make a start for myself I had to repeat the manoeuvre. Leaving him on one side and our Birmingham friend on the other, I walked down stream a clear mile ahead of them and began on my own account.

I had got three or four dozen nice trout—not very large ones certainly—when I came to a deep, still pool just above a wooden bridge, when I hooked (or fouled, as I thought) something very heavy, which bent my crazy little rod double. I made some little effort to disengage my line from the impediment, whatever it might be, when by and-by I was surprised to see the head of a large fish, still more surprised to see that I had hooked it, and astonished beyond measure to find that it made no play at all. I could not tell what to do; but, as the fish remained passive, I did the same, and looked about for my friend in the hope that he might be able to help me. I espied him in the field above me trying to "stone" his line out of a tree into which he had thrown it, as he had done into every one that came in his way. He was so busily employed that he could not hear me, so I was thrown entirely on my own resources. I was standing on a nice shelving sand bank, and began to think that if the fish would only condescend to remain quiet or asleep for a few minutes longer, I might possibly drag him ashore; so I stepped back slowly step by step, dragging him on after me very gently till his back was bare, and I saw that he was a fine salmon of seven or eight pounds weight. I looked at him for some time, hesitating what to do next; but he would not make play, and if he had done so I knew he would have been off for I could not give him line. There was nothing for it but to continue the same kind of tactics, so I stepped gently back till he was quite a foot clear out of the water, when I lost all presence of mind. Suddenly jumping at the conclusion that I had only to give one strong pull in order to jerk him well away from the edge of the river and he would be mine. I gave the jerk, broke my line, of course, fell backwards as the line gave way, woke up the fish, and when I picked myself up he was scuttling off so fast that, although I rushed in up to my knees after him, trying to throw him out with my hands, he was fairly off.

I have never been able to understand why he had taken his trip to the shore so coolly, nor can anyone I have mentioned it to explain it. Of course my sport for the day was over, and as my friend had caught nothing but a stray tree or bush here and there, we were both ready to trudge back to our cosy little hotel, which we found one of the most comfortable and least expensive of any in Wales.

The little lake, Llyn Cau, as well as the one we had fished over, the fine waterfalls, Rhaidr Du (black cataract), and Pistyl-y-Cayne, one leap of which must be at least 160 feet high, to say nothing of Cader Idris itself, are all within an easy distance, making this one of the most delightful halting-places one could wish for.

I was there again last summer, found the larger lake over-fished, but caught some bright silvery trout in the smaller one at the foot of Cader Idris, which gave great sport.

Next day we strolled away to Bedgelert, and took up our quarters at the Goat. The following day was so wet that we could not stir out. By way of passing the time I pored over the visiting-book, and was greatly amused with many of the remarks made by facetious visitors. Amongst them was an entry that amused me very much—a copy of Greek Iambics written by a Cambridge reading party in praise of the hotel, with sundry reflections on the "fatness" of the waiting maid. I could not help smiling whenever Mary made her appearance, for she was a regular female Daniel Lambert, and Banting in those days had not been heard of. The next trifle I found in the Llangollen visiting-book, and there is no doubt about its being one of "Hood's own." Here it is:—

"This is a theme that never fails
To talk or write upon;
The undersigned has been in Wales,
Jonah was but in one."
T. Hood.

It is satisfactory to be able to add that years after the above adventure with the salmon in Wales I had a similar encounter with another in Ireland, and this time profited by my first mistake. We were at anchor in Lough Foyle in H.M.S. *Hector*, looking after the Fenians who were supposed to have designs upon Greencastle Fort, which commanded the entrance to the Lough and the passage up to Londonderry. We used occasionally to stroll down to the Culfadda river with our fishing rods. One day, after an hour's fishing with very indifferent sport, I came to a fine long pool (where a boy had been drowned the previous summer), and hooked what I thought was a large trout. My tackle was very fine, so I determined to handle him gently. I soon saw that my fish was a salmon, and that I was in for another battle at a disadvantage with my tiny trout fly. I was standing on a bank without a landing net, and my first step was to wade across to the other side where there was a nice sheltering sand bank. After allowing the salmon to run two or three times up and down the pool, I thought the time had come for dragging him up the bank, but my heart failed me, I got nervous and gave him his head again. It was at least twenty minutes before my nerves were steady enough for the final experiment, and by that time the fish was getting exhausted; so I carefully commenced the task of introducing him step by step to *terra firma*. When I had him a foot out of the water, I dropped the rod carefully, rushed in upon him, seized him by the gills with my left hand and brained with a stone. I had him, and a fine six-pound fish he turned out to be. He had taken the smallest fly on my line (a little black goat), but was very firmly hooked.

One more adventure, and I have done. On our way back to England in H.M.S. *Galatea*, commanded by H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh, we looked in at the Falkland Islands. There I had good sport with what the residents called trout in one of the small streams. They were very plentiful, took the fly readily, and gave excellent sport, some of them weighing from half a pound to a pound. They were marked almost exactly like a mackerel and were nearly transparent. The flesh was white and flaky, like that of whiting, and most excellent eating. And now you will be tired with my long yarn, and I will not try your patience further.

J. M.

WEIGHT OF FISH IN WATER.

From "The Fly-Fisher's Text Book."

HERBERT: First tell me what is the use of these casting lines?

THEOPHILUS: Everything. First, the finer your tackle is near to the fly, the less visible it is to the fish.

HERBERT: Then why not have the reel line equally thin?

THEOPHILUS: Because if that be less than a certain thickness, according to the strength and power of the rod, it would be impossible to throw it well; and, secondly, because it is absolutely necessary that the whole should taper, to a certain degree, like a coach whip. It is not strength alone that requires a reel line to be of the usual substance, because, in reality, a good single salmon gut will bear three-fifths of the weight, which is more than requisite. I estimate that a stout reel line will bear about twenty-five pounds. *I say a great deal more than is requisite.* Now let me surprise you: what weight do you think a salmon of eighteen or twenty pounds will pull in the water at the end of a line? You'll hardly credit that he pulls less than one pound and a half, except in his rushes, which I have no means of estimating.

HERBERT: You astonish me.

THEOPHILUS: I assure you that such is the fact. One, of course, knows pretty well the force he applies to the rod in holding a fish. Once, after killing such a one as I have mentioned, I tried that force by the "Sportsman's Weighing Machine," and the result was as I mention. Reflection upon it has taught me a great deal. It shows how much we owe to the elasticity of the rod, aided by the temperate yielding to all the fish's movements, which, if properly applied, prevents a dead pull; and it should satisfy us that we may safely use much finer tackle than is the custom, and methinks it justifies me in pronouncing that which is said in "*Salmonia*" about triple gut, to be questionable instruction. *En passant*, let me give you a hint, that, in general, it does not turn so much on what weight the line will bear, as on what hold which the hook has in the fish's mouth will retain. If the hold in the mouth of the fish will not bear two or three pounds, there is no use in having tackle above calculated for fifteen or twenty pounds weight.

HERBERT: No one will dispute that.

THEOPHILUS: Rather say, few have ever thought about it.

[Those of our readers who may be incredulous about some of the statements of Theophilus should fasten a spring balance to a hook, attach the line to it, and then put all the strain on the spring of the rod they would have to when killing a fish; they will be somewhat astonished at the result. We were never more impressed with what a fine line will do than once, some years ago, when we saw a gentleman fishing below Chertsey kill a very heavy Thames trout on the finest Nottingham twist. The fish fought splendidly, and the angler had to manage his punt and play the fish at the same time, which he did like an artist. When the fish was in the punt the angler came ashore. After admiring the superb fish, we remarked that the line was doubtless very strong though so fine. "Try it," he said. We did so, and it snapped as easily as a bit of sewing-thread. But Theophilus has overlooked one contingency when strength in your casting line is most valuable, and that is when you get your hook fast in a snag or rock, and when, if it were no stronger than the casting line, you might lose the greater part of it in the dead pull necessary to release it. Far more fish are lost through striking too hard, or the

hold in the fish's mouth giving way, or through putting on unnecessary strain, than by weakness in the line itself. We remember reading somewhere of a very practical demonstration of this. An angler laid a wager with a friend that the friend could not break his line by pulling it while the angler had command of the rod and reel; the friend took hold of the line and rushed about the field until he was tired out in his endeavours to overcome the angler's "play," but the elasticity of the rod and the "give" of the winch were too much for him—in fact, it was like pulling a piece of indiarubber, only he could never get to the breaking-point of the line as he might have with the indiarubber. Mr. A. G. Jardine, Mr. A. Little, and others of our most successful killers of big fish use, as a rule, what at first sight might be considered ridiculously weak lines for the work they have to perform.—ED.]

RECIPE FOR WAXING SILK FOR FLY-TYING.

IN that charming work, "The Fly-fisher's Text Book," by Theophilus South (Edward Chitty), published in 1841, we find a recipe which our fly-making readers would do well to make a note of.

"Another species of wax (which is peculiarly well adapted to the fine gloves' silk) is prepared by dissolving a lump of cobbler's wax* in a sufficient quantity of spirits of wine, or (perhaps the best, as most evaporating) eau de Cologne, about half an ounce of the spirit to the size of a small walnut of the former. This is kept in a corked bottle, and applied in a honey-like liquid state, soon becoming hard enough from evaporation. I consider it to be the very best mode with very fine silk, enabling you to wax an entire skein of the finest without a break, winding it from one card, in its clean state, on to another as you wax it, and thus having it always ready for use. Never hesitate dirtying your fingers during the operation (a little sweet oil or spirits of wine will clean them); but, holding a drop between the forefinger and thumb, rub it well into the silk, or you may wear a pair of kid gloves for the purpose. I also afterwards take a morsel of the dry wax, the size of a pea, and rub that over, which gives additional tenacity. It is by far the best plan of waxing that I know of."

FISH-POISONING AT HAMPTON WICK.

A MEETING of the Hampton Wick Local Board was held on Saturday, December 22nd, to consider a complaint made by Mr. H. E. Tatham, of Cheshfield, that on the 7th inst. thousands of fish (including many fine jack, perch, eels, &c.) had been killed in his preserves by a gaseous fluid poured into the Old King's River, which runs through his grounds from Bushey Park, and flows into the Thames opposite Stevens's Ait, below Kingston Bridge. Sir Thomas Nelson, chairman of the board, and other members expressed indignation at this wanton destruction of the fish by the pollution of the water. A sample of the polluted water was analysed by Messrs. Corbyn, Stacey, and Co., of High Holborn. They certified it to be contaminated with free and albuminoid ammonias, which, they added, "were no doubt derived from a manufactory or gas-works." It was stated that permission had not been given by the Board to the managers of any manufactory or gas works to allow refuse to flow into it, and the Board knew nothing as to the cause of any such pollution. Mr. Smith, one of the members of the Board, and a director of the local gas works, stated that there had been nothing more than the ordinary flow of rain-water from those works. After some discussion, the Board unanimously resolved to offer a reward of £5 to any person who would give information leading to the conviction of the offender or offenders. The Thames Conservancy are also investigating the matter.

OTTERS TAKEN FROM THE RIVERS OUSE AND LARK.—Anglers will be delighted to hear of the capture of two or more of these destructive brutes in two of our best roach streams, the Ouse below Ely, and the charming little river Lark, near Prickwillow; the largest (male) weighed 29 lb. and measured thirty-eight inches in length. It is well known that the otters have been very busy along the Lark during the last few weeks, the remains of very large roach having been found on the bank near Mildenhall. Both these otters have been sent to Mr. William Howlett, naturalist, of Newmarket, to be preserved and mounted.

TIME IS MONEY.—There lives in Pawtucket a man whose whole existence seems to be conducted similar to a piece of machinery, his every day work being carried on with an exactness and precision rather amusing. All his movements and transactions are always "on time," in fact his great hobby is time. "Be on time and save time" is his motto. At the same hour every day he gets out of bed. A few seconds later his right boot is on, and then his left, breakfast is finished in a certain time, and he is seen at his place of business just at the stroke of seven. He is constantly enlarging on the immense quantity of time that is wasted and thrown away by every man and woman every hour. He illustrated his hobby the other day in a rather amusing and indisputable manner. A friend presented him with a very fine-looking cat. Calling the next day he found the cat without any tail, the tail being cut off as close to the body as could be without cutting the tail off behind the cat's ears. When asked why he had done this, he remarked, "I have to let this cat in and out of this store a good many times a day. Now, if that cat had a long tail, don't you see, I would have to lose so much time waiting for the tail to go out and in, whereas now I have only to wait for the cat. A tail is of no earthly use to a cat, and especially to this cat, so you will see I will have the cat just the same, and only lose the time in letting the cat in and out, thus saving all the time that would be lost in letting the tail in and out." He then proceeded to show the number of seconds per day, minutes per week, and hours per month, and days per year that could be saved by owning a tailless cat. He had got into decades, when his friend fled wondering if "time was made for slaves."—*Providence Journal*.

* We have never forgotten the indignant way in which a little old shoemaker, long since dead, corrected us on asking him if he had any cobbler's wax to sell. "No, but I have shoemaker's wax, if that is what you mean," pointing to an earthen pannikin beside him.—ED.]

CLUB REPORTS.

ANCHOR AND HOPE ANGLING SOCIETY.

A roving match will be fished on January 13th, go where you please, for four valuable prizes.—D. DAVIS, sec.

ANGLERS' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

Since my last report I beg to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of 5s. donation from W. Godwin, Esq., of the Gresham Angling Society.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

BATTERSEA FRIENDLY ANGLERS.

Nearly all our members were Christmas Boxing, instead of fishing last week. But the following stuck to their work. Mr. H. Martin, roach; Mr. G. Butterworth, roach, and also some nice eels. Mr. H. Payne, one gudgeon; Mr. C. Hedges a nice brace of jack; Mr. G. Mumford, one of the old fashioned catches, 0. The writer's compliments to M. I. C. U., and wishes him a prosperous New Year. All members are requested to attend on Tuesday next for important business.—A. SAMPSON, hon. sec.

BURDETT ANGLING SOCIETY.

The following members have weighed in during the past fortnight:—On the 23rd ult., Mr. Hayward, one jack, 4 lb. 2½ oz.; Mr. Lamb, roach, 1 lb. 7¼ oz.; dace, 8 oz.; Mr. Hopkins, roach, 14 oz. On the 30th ult., Mr. L. J. Hayward, jack, 3 lb. 15½ oz.; Mr. Eaton, roach, 1 lb. 15½ oz., chub, 11 oz.; Mr. T. Hammond, jack, 2 lb. 5½ oz., roach, 11 oz.; Mr. Whitmore, roach, 3 lb. 14½ oz., chub, 1 lb. 3½ oz., and Mr. G. W. Britt, roach, 9 oz. Although Mr. Kroob did not weigh in, he had some good sport at Ely while fishing with a friend, he having bagged sixty-three roach and three nice jack in two days.—T. G. WALKER.

CITY OF LONDON ANGLING SOCIETY.

Two only of our members weighed in on the 23rd—Mr. T. Payne, roach from Amberley; and Mr. Ca tell, roach, from the Stort.—CAS.

EALING DEAN CONVIVIAL ANGLING SOCIETY.

The usual weekly meeting of this society was held on Thursday the 27th ult., when after the business of the evening had been disposed of, Mr. J. J. Parkes, our worthy host and treasurer, with his usual good nature, placed upon the table some bowls of excellent punch, together with sandwiches, biscuits, &c., to which the members present did ample justice. During the week Messrs. West and Gordon have been out, and have had some very good takes of dace, and yesterday secured four jack, at Uxbridge, the heaviest about 2 lb.—J. G. LE Grys, hon. sec.

GOLDEN BARREL ANGLING SOCIETY.

Our old friends, Messrs. Allen, J. Green, and J. Stanton still manage to find some sport in the Upper Thames. On the 27th ult. Mr. Allen scaled 5 lb. of nice roach, dace, and perch. On the 30th he again managed to find a nice lot, Messrs. Stanton and Green followed close to him with perch, roach, and dace. This competition is closely watched by all members and their friends as the season draws to its close, and the member who wins the 1st prize generally richly deserves it.—PIXIE.

GREAT NORTHERN BROTHERS ANGLING SOCIETY.

The following members showed some roach on Thursday, Dec. 26th, from Bourne End. Mr. J. Bingley, 2 lb. 7 oz.; Mr. J. Watling, 4 lb. 12 oz.; Mr. C. Watling 4 lb. 12 oz.; Mr. G. Watling, 7 lb. 6 oz. On Dec. 30, Mr. C. Watling, 3 lb. 7 oz.; Mr. R. Hill, 2 lb. 4 oz.; Mr. Baker, 2 lb. 1 oz.; Mr. G. Watling, 4 lb. 3 oz.; Mr. Dingley, 9 oz. The next Eastern District visit will be paid to this society on Wednesday, Jan. 16th—J. FITCH, sec.

GRESHAM ANGLING SOCIETY.

The usual weekly meeting was held at the Masons' Hall Tavern, Masons' Avenue, Basinghall Street, on Tuesday evening. Mr. Moore in the chair. The minutes were read and confirmed, and Mr. Charles Young was unanimously elected a member of the society. Mr. H. C. Seyfang was also proposed as a member, and the ballot was fixed for the 15th instant. The silver medal awarded to the society at the International Fisheries Exhibition, which had come to hand since the last meeting, was very much admired. Mr. Darling weighed in two very fine jack caught in the society's new water. Among the visitors present was Mr. Sprackley, who in acknowledging a present of a volume of the society's papers, expressed the great pleasure he felt in attending the meeting. He pointed out the great improvement of the angling prospects in the Thames during the past nine years, and the very salutary effect of the New Conservancy By-Laws. Angling and anglers required to be better understood by those possessing large pieces of water, at present wholly unremunerative; as by a judicious letting under proper restrictions and regulations, they would then find waters more valuable than their land. A vote of thanks having been accorded to the Chairman, the rest of the evening was devoted to the usual musical selections.—H.

HIGHBURY ANGLING SOCIETY.

During the past month several of our members have been well to the front with a grand display of jack, perch, roach, and dace, the most fortunate being Mr. Higley and Mr. Shipley, who conjointly captured upwards of 50 lb. weight of jack, the largest taken by the latter gentleman scaling over 14 lb. The other successful members were Messrs. Lewis, Devonshire, Payne, Howell, Anthony, and Edwards, thus furnishing our trays with some excellent specimen roach, perch, and dace, from the Thames and Lea.—JAS. EDW. WHEATLEY, sec.

HOXTON BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

Twenty-four of our members fished the Rye House water on Dec. 27th for twenty-one Christmas prizes not won on the previous outing. They were all won with some excellent shows of roach, J. Osborne winning first prize—also winning the Proprietor's Daily Prize, beating G. Swinerton by ¼ oz. The prizes were given over on Christmas Eve.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

INDEPENDENT BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

We are pleased to be able to report a fair show of fish on the 30th inst., H. Moore, coming first with a brace of nice jack, also some roach and bream. We also hope to have some good shows for the remainder of the season, as our host, Mr. Coulson, gives a handsome gilt clock under glass shade, for the gross weight of roach from Jan. 1st to the close of the season, and which all our members mean to try hard to get.—H. MOORE, sec.

INDEPENDENT JOVIAL ANGLING SOCIETY.

The members of this society fish for three prizes, on the 6th inst., at Richmond (from the Orleans Club to Richmond Bridge).—W. OLIVE, sec.

IZAACK WALTON ANGLING SOCIETY.

Mr. J. W. Morgan was well amongst the jack on the 28th of December, he had 26 lb. 8½ oz., the heaviest one weighed 17 lb. 6¼ oz., which has been sent to Mr. J. Barrett, of 11, Diss Street, Hackney Road, to be preserved. Mr. H. Butt won Mr. Skook's prize, a meerscham ppe, for the heaviest weight of roach taken on the Sundays during December. Mr. A. Bass won Mr. H. Butt's prize, half-a-guinea, for the second heaviest weight of the same kind taken on the same days. Mr. J. Barnes won Mr. T. Harris's prize, a winch, for the heaviest weight of jack taken on the same days. Mr. A. Bass also won Mr. T. Dennison sen.'s prize, half-a-guinea, for the heaviest weight of roach taken on the Wednesday's during last month. Six special prizes were fished for on December 30th, in the Forty Guinea water but owing to the sudden coldness of the weather the fish went quite off and only three of the prizes were taken: Mr. A. Bass, was first; Mr. C. Green, second; Mr. G. Manning, third. The other three prizes not taken will be fished for on Sunday, the 13th inst. in the same water, and on the same conditions. Messrs. A. Bass, J. K. Charters, and W. Wilkinson will each give a prize, value half-a-guinea, to be fished for on Sunday, the 20th inst. All fish weigh. Members to choose their own fishing water—no competitor to leave London before the morning of the competition. Special monthly prizes now on are—a box of cigars, given by Mr. G. P. Rolt, for the heaviest weight of roach taken on the Wednesday's during January; and a prize, value half-a-guinea, given by Mr. F. A. Hawthorn, for the heaviest weight of any kind taken on any day during the month. No member to be allowed to weigh in less than 1 lb. at any time for this prize.—H. B.

METROPOLITAN ANGLING SOCIETY.

Mr. Freethy, one jack from the Lea, weighing 4 lb. 4½ oz.; Mr. Bradley, a good show of dace from the Thames; Mr. Biscoe and Mr. James Newton, roach from the Lea; John Newton, one roach, weighing 1 lb. 12 oz., from the river Colne.—W. MYALL, sec.

NORTH WESTERN ANGLING SOCIETY.

The members of this club have been having a good try to fill the trays. Mr. H. Underwood, with roach; Mr. R. Marshall chub; Messrs. W. Roxber and Eng'land, roach and dace; W. Hillier, jack—W. Hillier, sec.

PECKHAM BROTHERS ANGLING SOCIETY.

Charlesley White scored the first win for the cup on the 30th ult., with a show of roach and perch from West Drayton; one roach has been sent for preservation. Mr. Stidolph also had a nice jack; Mr. George Lang has given a prize to add to the series for the 13th. The members of the P.B.A.S. and a few friends spent a very pleasant evening on the 1st. The following gentlemen contributed to the enjoyment by some very good singing: Messrs. Matthews, Stidolph, Cox, Duke, Page, Pixie, Bignall and Reed. The host, who is also treasurer to the Society, follows well in the footsteps of his father, and does all in his power to make both members and visitors happy. The members of this club have subscribed £12s. 6d. to the Hoole testimonial fund—one thing it is well deserved.—GADELY.

RODNEY PISCATORIALS.

On the 26th ult. Mr. Grant exhibited some nice roach and dace from the Thames. Some friends showed about 40 lbs of roach from private waters. Mr. Digins visited Day's water, where he succeeded in netting eight nice carp, and one tench all in splendid condition. At the meeting held on the 2nd it was decided that the next competition take place on the 20th for the following prizes:—1st a piece of furniture value £22, given by Mr. T. Hughes; 2nd 10s. 6d., given by Mr. Liverage; 3rd Mr. Ainsby's prize and two prizes given by the society. The where and how to be decided at the next meeting held on the 9th.—"PIXIE."

ROYAL GEORGE ANGLING SOCIETY.

On Dec. 23rd, it being a very fine day, most of our members were out, and came home with very fine shows of fish, considering the time of year. Mr. Trotter had nearly 6 lb. of dace; so did Mr. Hewett, from Twickenham. Mr. Hughes had 6 lb. of roach and dace from Bourn End, Messrs. Gynan, Parsons, Lloyd, and Sinclair following up with some good shows of fish in jack. Our club room was full, members turning up to take their "winnings," in the shape of Christmas cheer, viz., beef, geese, hare, leg of pork, bottles of rum, whiskey, gin, cigars, &c.

Several members fished at Twickenham on the 30th ult., with the following result: Mr. Lloyd, dace, 4 lb.; Hewett, nearly 4 lb. dace; Hughes and Trotter did well also, and appeared in the club room with fair shows of dace and roach.—W. H. R.

SOUTH EASTERN ANGLING SOCIETY.

At a meeting of this society on Jan. 2nd, which was taken as quarterly night in lieu of the 26th ult., there was a good muster of members, who were well supported by their friends. A good amount of business was got through. Five new members to ballot for next meeting night, others promising to join shortly. Mr. Smith, chairman. After some good harmony meeting closed at 11:30 p.m.—T. H. H. WESTON, sec.

STANLEY ANGLERS' SOCIETY.

The following members showed fish at the society's rooms this week:—Mr. Humby, one pike, 5 lb. 3¾ oz., three perch, 1 lb. 4½ oz., and forty-two roach, 18 lb. (heaviest, 1 lb. 2¼ oz.); Mr. C. Scull, perch, dace, and gudgeon. I hope to be in a position to send you a better report next week.—G. E. W.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ANGLING SOCIETY.

I am pleased to report that there was a very good show of pike brought to the club on Christmas Eve, Mr. H. Evans having the best show with eight fish, the two largest weighing 12 lb., Mr. W. Evans and Mr. E. Cocker also showing some nice fish, fourteen in all being shown, all taken spinning, with sprats, salted, for bait—a very pretty tray. I would recommend the above lure to pike anglers who have not tried it, and who find any difficulty in procuring fresh baits. Mr. H. Evans, one of the oldest and best pike anglers in this neighbourhood, declares it to be one of the best baits he ever used. Using his own words, he says: "They come at it like a tiger." Several members tried a day with the roach, but nothing was done worth reporting.—J. HOLLINS, hon. sec.

THE LIVERPOOL ANGLING ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting was held on the 29th of December, and considering it was holiday time, there was a very fair muster. After the routine business had been got through, the following special matters were brought forward and disposed of. Regulations for fishing in the reservoir at Rnabon for 1884. The season to open on February 7th, and the conditions to be the same as those of 1883. The treasurer's quarterly account of receipts and payments, showing a creditors' balance of £22 14s. 5d. was unanimously adopted. The officers were re-elected:—President, J. Wilkinson, Esq.; vice-president, Mr. R. Woolfall; chairman, Mr. G. Pratchett; vice-chairman, Mr. W. Pearson; treasurer, Mr. W. Jones; hon. sec. Mr. R. Woolfall; hon. cash steward, Mr. J. Evans; auditors, Messrs. Sergenson and W. Francis; committee, Messrs. Bloomfield, Chandler, Lofthouse, Gass, H. Wood, Roberts and Martin. Prizes presented: Specimen fish, 10s. 6d. each—trout, Mr. W. H. Hughes; chub, Mr. P. Leader, tench and carp, Mr. H. Wood; perch, Mr. R. Edwards; bream, Mr. J. Evans; roach, Mr. Chandler; dace, Mr. A. Gregory. Gross weights:—1st, Mr. Chandler, 1 lb. 11 oz.; 2nd, Mr. Harrison, 10s. 6d.; 3rd, Mr. R. Woolfall, 5s. Consolation prizes:—Trout or Grayling, fly book, Mr. Martin; coarse fish, super bottom rod, Mr. Bloomfield; reel and line, Mr. Gass; Mr. Higson's special prize of one guinea for the heaviest roach taken out of the Vyrnwy in 1883 was won by Mr. Leader. Prizes promised for 1884: "Consolation" by Mr. Pratchett, super bottom rod, French polished, 2 tops; super bottom tackle case fitted; Russian leather fly book; ebonite reel and best plated silk tapered waterproof trout line, by Mr. Martin; an oil painting, by Mr. W. Francis; a 10lb. box of tea; One Guinea each, by Messrs. Leader, Sergenson and Woolfall. An honorarium of five guineas was voted by acclamation to the hon. sec. not as a payment, but as a mark of appreciation for his energy and exertions in the interests of angling generally, and of the Liverpool Angling Association particularly. A vote of congratulation was passed to the treasurer, Mr. W. Jones, on his recovery from a serious illness, which was acknowledged (on behalf of Mr. Jones) by Mr. R. Roberts, and the meeting was brought to a conclusion by a cordial vote of thanks to the chairman.—R. WOOLFALL, hon. sec.

THE PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

In spite of the numerous attractions elsewhere, a good number of members were present at the meeting last Monday evening, to welcome the new year and those who had been out fishing. Mr. Huggett, was as usual to the fore, and showed 33 lb. 6 oz. of pike, largest, 10 lb. 10 oz., and 1 lb. 4 oz. of dace from the Avon; Mr. Blamey registered seven bream, 17 lb. 10 oz., largest, 4 lb.; ten roach, 8 lb. 8 oz., largest 1 lb. 12 oz.; four perch, 3 lb. 4 oz., largest, 1 lb. 13 oz., from Shepperton. Several members recounted their unsuccessful attempts to obtain sport during the past week, and after the usual toasts of the successful anglers and the chair had been proposed and responded to, the members separated, wishing each other the usual compliments. The annual meeting will be held on Monday, the 7th inst., when it is hoped that the members will be in strong force, as on that occasion the election of officers will take place, and the usual fixtures made for the ensuing year.—J. L.

THE UNITED LONDON FISHERIES SOCIETY.

I beg to inform members of the angling societies enrolled on the associations that the Fisheries Society have rented the fishery of the small Lee from Waltham-lane to the outlet above Enfield Lock, and can now be fished by holders of privilege tickets.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

N.B.—This fishery was lately rented by the Gresham Angling Society.

UNITED BROTHERS, DEPTFORD.

Not much sport of late; on December 26th, Mr. J. W. Freeman showed three nice pike in splendid condition, the largest one turning the scale at 16 lb. 13 oz., a very nice specimen. Mr. Freeman has presented the demon of the deeps to our worthy host, Mr. W. Wood, and I am very pleased to say that as soon as preserved, our worthy host intends presenting it to the members of the above club, when it will adorn the walls of our spacious club room. The next return visit of the South London United will be paid so the above society on Thursday evening next, January 10th, at 7.30 p.m., at the Druids Head Tavern, Broadway, Deptford. Trains from all parts within five minutes' walk of the club house, nearest railway stations, S.E.R., New Cross or Deptford; L.C.D.R., Lewisham-road, or Blackheath-road. Trams pass the door. At the return visit last month it was resolved by all clubs present that they would turn up in a great muster at the United's visit, which they most richly deserve, for their past services to the clubs of the South London. I hope and trust that their promise may be true, and that we shall have a real bumper; at the last visit to the Peckham Brothers, I remember the Second Surrey was represented by 19 members, and I should like to see Mr. Wright muster twenty-nine on the 10th. No matter how many come, we have ample room, for we have one of the finest rooms in London, bar none, and now I will leave it in the hands of the clubs of the south side to respond to the call of the United as true honest and hard working anglers. Wishing you all a happy new year, and hoping I shall have a good report to make of clubs present next week.—W. T.

WESTBOURNE PARK PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

The members of this society fished their last competition of the year on Monday last, for roach, from Thames only. The following members were successful in securing the prizes offered:—1st prize, £5, Mr. Pink, 11 lb. 9 oz.; 2nd prize, £3, Mr. Reid, 5 lb. 12½ oz.; 3rd prize, £1 10s., Mr. Bowen, 5 lb. 8 oz. Several others competed, and, considering the weather, there was a handsome show of fish; Mr. Reid's largest roach weighing 1 lb. 6 oz., a not altogether bad specimen for the Thames. A special meeting of this society will be held on Tuesday next, the 8th inst., at which all members are particularly requested to attend, as business of a special nature will be brought forward. The chair will be taken by Mr. G. Evans at 8.30 p.m.—H.

DINNER TO MR. T. J. HAMP.—A complimentary dinner was given to Mr. T. J. Hamp on Friday evening, to congratulate him on the successful completion of the re-building of the Holborn Restaurant. The banquet, which was on a scale of great magnificence, took place in the Venetian saloon, under the presidency of Mr. Frederick Gordon, and there was an attendance of two hundred friends. Mr. Hamp's catering for several of the principal angling clubs, and his attention on those occasions, has secured for him the esteem of a large body of London Piscators.

THE BETTER PRESERVATION OF OUR PUBLIC WATERS.

S R.—The above subject has for some time past engaged my attention, and although I have repeatedly determined to commit my observations to paper, the difficulty of obtaining a satisfactory solution of the problem and the cares of business have repeatedly supervened, and thus time after time, I have shelved, lost sight of, or for a time forgotten this important subject. But with each succeeding excursion to the country, the information which I there obtain of nets netting, snatching, or other poaching methods by which fish are continually being obtained both in season and out of season, has again caused me to revive my former efforts to discover some remedial measure for preventing the constant drain on our public waters by means of what may perhaps be very properly called a series of atrocities.

Our present river keepers can be very well left to deal with any wholesale onslaught on the finny tribe. Their duties and responsibilities should, at least as far as fish are concerned, be almost precisely analogous to those of our ordinary police. The first thing that occurs to me is the desirability of retaining a larger number of these useful executive officials, because it is evident as they are at present so widely and sparsely dispersed, even netting may at times be carried on to a limited extent with impunity. We must remember we do not engage our keepers to constantly perambulate our rivers like the police force do their district, also that they are usually stationed miles apart. As we do not levy taxes for the protection of our public waters, we are not in a position to retain such a competent force as our civic authorities possess. Pondering over this matter, I at last come to see that not only were we thus deficient, but that we also lacked the services of a detective force, and then it occurred to me that we might very readily supply this deficiency, and that with a very little cost to anglers as a body, by making the office-bearers of our clubs commission or warrant officers.

I trust our United London Angling Association Fisheries Society approves this suggestion, and I will also draw up a code of rules for the guidance of such a body, and also recommend that no official should be appointed to any club, unless he agrees to undertake the duties of river protection, as thus provided for. I should advise such rules being submitted for approval to the Thames Angling Preservation Society, with regard to the Thames; and to the United London Anglers' Central Committee (East Central), for the Lea. I have no wish to see a corps raised of mere jacks in office, or a secret police force formed on conventional principles; but rather an honourable and honourable association, whose sole duty it should be to take cognizance of any breach of the laws provided for the protection of fair angling, or the misuse of our railway privilege tickets that may come under their notice. Their duty should be that of the prevention of offences rather than their detection, although both duties should be included, and they should also be required to give the river keepers any necessary assistance in their power, primarily by supplying them with information, or even, when necessary, lending them more active assistance.

As far as I can see, the only expense attending the realisation of such a valuable addition to our present force would be the cost of printing the code of rules, to which should be attached a form of warrant, with the name and address of its owner and that of the river keepers in the neighbourhood. I do not advise that power should be given this auxiliary force to search every angler's creel or punt met with for undersized fish, or poaching implements; but should any of its members, for instance, see anyone one fishing during the fence months, or taking undersized fish at ordinary times, they should first warn such individual. If he then persisted in breaking the laws, notwithstanding such warning, the name and address of such offender should be demanded, and, if necessary, the warrant be produced to support such demand. A report of each offence should be drawn up with as little delay as possible, and forwarded to some central authority, who should direct what further steps should be taken in the matter.

I also hope that the day is not far distant when one law and one takeable size for each description of fish shall apply to the whole of the public waters of the United Kingdom. Then, if we can prevent their pollution, and supply the constant and ever-increasing drain on their resources, by means of fish culture, we may hope to ultimately enjoy as successful a day's fishing as was possible in good old Isaac Walton's time, 200 years ago. Should anyone ask what is the necessity for raising an (A. C. P.) Anglers' Protection Corps on the ground that every angler can do as good service without as with a warrant, to him I reply—Isaac Walton wrote with regard to netting and the taking of undersized fish in his day, "That which is everybody's business is nobody's business." What do you think, Mr. Editor? Have times altered? If our Government has found it expedient not only to continue, but also to encourage, a Volunteer force for the protection of the country, why should we anglers not have a similar organisation for the protection of our fish? Their motto is to be "Defence, not defiance"; let ours be "Prevention and detection."—I am, &c.

Gresham Angling Society.

A. W. PARKER.

[We know Mr. Parker has only the best interests of anglers at heart, but we feel sure his suggestion to convert the office bearers of the clubs into a cross between a Thames river keeper and a Scotland Yard detective will not be received with enthusiasm either by the clubs or the "office bearers." It is quite enough to have our old friend, Mr. Brougham, poking his nose into our affairs. We don't mind him, but some hundreds of sham Broughams, armed with warrants, would soon make angling in public waters possible only under the protection of a ferocious bull-dog. Better an empty creel and peace therewith, than a big bag with detectives all round you, that is our feeling. Once introduce the "detection" system, Mr. Parker, and all confidence and trust between anglers will be impossible. Your remedy is worse than the disease, which in Thames and Lea is almost exterminated.—Ed.]

DANGER IN THE COD FISH.—A friend informs us that when eating a piece of cod fish recently, he was unpleasantly surprised to find that he came very near swallowing a hook which was buried in the flesh. The most curious part of it was that the piece which contained this unwholesome stuffing was from the back of the fish. It is probable that the fish having swallowed the hook, the latter got pressed into the top part of the stomach and so worked its way into the back. We know some anglers are in the habit, when a fish has bolted the hook, of cutting the line and leaving it in the fish—a dangerous practice even to human beings, but doubly so if the fish, as so often happens, is given to the cat or the pigs. A bone is bad enough, but a fish-hook in one's gullet! Let those who use the cruel gorge hook try it.

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RIVER REPORTS.

TIME OF HIGH WATER IN THE THAMES,
FOR SATURDAY, JANUARY 5.

	Morning.	Afternoon.
London Bridge	6.13	6.37
Putney	7.3	7.27
Kew	7.53	8.7
Richmond	8.13	8.27

THE LOWER THAMES.

GENERAL REMARKS.

A happy and successful New Year to all Thames Anglers!—In reference to Thames flounders, of which there has been considerable discussion lately, it will be an interesting fact to record that the spawning this season has been of almost successful character. It is reported by the energetic river keeper of the Thames Conservancy, he has seldom seen such a splendid show of small fry. He says, in the shallows, directly the pole goes into the water, myriads of small fry about the size of a thumbnail dart about in all directions. As regards the fish poisoning at Hampton Wick, it should be stated that Mr. Thomas Spreckley, and the Committee of the Thames Angling Preservation Society, have been and are now taking their part in the investigation that is going on, and Mr. Alfred Nuthall, the Mayor of Kingston, is also rendering every assistance.

Richmond.

Christopher Brown in one day with Mr. King 11½ lb. of roach, and in three other days 24 lb. Henry Wheeler in five days, 40 lb. of roach and dace. Job Brain in three days, 26 lb. of dace. Henry Howard in one day, 5 lb. of roach and dace, and Henry Mansell in five days, 40 lb. of roach and dace.

BANK ANGLING.—The following fish have been weighed in:—At the "Jolly Anglers" Mr. Tascar 2½ lb., Mr. Weber, 5 lb. of roach, the two largest weighing respectively 1½ lb. and 1 lb., Mr. Pettie 4 lb. of dace and Mr. Fairclough 3 lb. At the "Waterman's Arms," Mr. Conroy and Mr. Camm, 8 lb. of fish between them.

Twickenham.

Messrs. C. Miles and G. Wright in one day five dozen of dace. Richard Moffatt, in one day 3½ doz. of roach and dace. John Spong, in one day 7½ doz. of dace. Pert Hammerton, in two days, 9½ doz. of roach and dace. Mr. Beard with George Chamberlain, during the week 400 dace. Edward Finch, in two days, 12 dozen. George Coxen, in four days, 40 doz. of roach and dace. Richard Coxen, in two days, 16 lb. of roach and dace. A. Farmer, in one day, 15½ lb. and A. Turner in two days, 12 doz. of dace.

Walton.

The water is now in good condition for jack and perch fishing. There have been 8 jack taken this last week, average from 3 lb. to 5 lb. G. Hone, sen., 4 dozen of perch; J. Hone, 2 dozen of perch; G. Hone, jun., 2½ dozen of perch.—S. ROSEWELL.

Teddington.

There are no angling reports, but the water below this point is said to be very low and bright.

Kingston.

John Johnson, sen., in three days, twenty dozen of dace, one dozen of gudgeon, and a chub of 2 lb.; John Johnson, jun., in one day, three chub, nine brace of perch, and two dozen of dace.

BANK ANGLING.—Both at Kingston and Surbiton, the bank fishers have been operating with some success among the roach, dace, and perch.

East Moulsey.

Charles Davis, in one day, twenty-one brace of perch, all good fish; and W. Milburne, in two days, a jack of 5 lb., two brace of perch, and six dozen of dace.

BANK ANGLING.—There has been a good muster of bank anglers, and roach, dace, and perch have contributed to their appeals.

Sunbury.

Messrs. Edward Clarke and sons, in one day, three and a half dozen of roach and one dozen of gudgeon.

BANK ANGLING.—Roach, dace, and perch have yielded in fair quantities to the small army of bank fishers which have invaded this district during the past week.

Halliford.

George Rosewell, one day, a fine jack of 14½ lb. and two brace of perch; and her day, two jack respectively 8½ lb. and 2 lb.; and another day, one brace of jack.

Chertsey.

John Poulter, in one day, a jack of 4 lb. and three brace of perch; James Haslett, in four hours, eleven fine roach and one perch.

Staines.

Charles Hone has made a good start of the New Year, having on the first

day got four good jack, the largest 10 lb., one 5½ lb., and the other two 3 lb. each. In other days as follows:—One day, eight chub, the largest 3½ lb.; another day, two chub and three brace of perch; another day, thirteen perch; and another day, seven perch. Hone is not only a good fisherman, but whenever the river-keepers require assistance he is always ready to help them, by night or by day, and his services are freely given. He is, therefore, deserving of support, and he says, "I only want gentlemen to try their hands, and I will find them some fish."

The annual dinner to all the river-keepers, lock-keepers, and others who have assisted the keepers in the protection of the fishery below Staines, will take place at the Station Hotel, Richmond, on Friday, the 18th of January. Mr. John Munro, the proprietor, who is a first-rate caterer, is sure to give them a splendid dinner, and the singing and recitations of the men contribute to a most enjoyable evening. A number of visitors are admitted on these occasions. The dinner tickets are five shillings each, and early application is necessary to Mr. W. H. Brougham, Swayfield Villa, Hounslow.

UPPER THAMES.

"Stand not on the order of your going, but go at once," to the Thames if first-class winter fishing is desired. The river is simply in the very perfection of trim—indeed at this time of the year I certainly have never seen the angling trim equalled for the last 30 years. Jack are on—roach ditto, perch ditto, and chub simply want inviting with either nerving matter or the tail of lob—tail for choice. At Henley, Mr. C. D. Johnson has been busy in the Hambleton waters with perch, and Mr. Rogers with Neal on one occasion only has taken 50 brace of fine perch near Regatta Island, only a few of which were returnable as undersized. Mr. Pitchy, with Parrott, has had six jack in the Henley district, and also some 30 perch and a decent sprinkling of chub, the best of the latter persuasion scaling 4 lb. My letters from nearly all fishable stations tell of good sport, and predict excellent prospects in the present exceptionable state of the river. The Hurley waters near Marlow are particularly right just now, and Londoners could not do better than try these out-of-the-way places, which even in the summer time are away from the madding crowd. A comfortable and cosy inn in this locality will be found in the East Arms, where reasonable "fixings" may be found and fish just now in galore.—MARLOW BUZZ.

Oxford.

I scarcely ever remember such a Christmas season as the present one. The fish are suffering excessively from the hook fever, and the piscine bills of mortality show a high percentage of deaths. Starting on Boxing Day, Mr. Jas. Simms, at Clifton, had thirteen good perch. In Mumby's water, in six days, i.e. from Dec. 22nd to Dec. 31st, Mr. Tanner has taken ten jack, which may be roughly averaged at 27 lb., viz., on Dec. 22, one 2½ lb.; Dec. 24, three, 2½, 2½, and 1½ lb.; Dec. 26, 3 lb. and 2½ lb.; Dec. 27, over 2 lb.; Dec. 29, one, 8 lb.; Dec. 31, two, 9½, and 1½ lb. In the last fortnight between forty and fifty fish have been taken in the Backwater between Wolvercote Bridge and the paper mill, the whole distance being on y about two hundred yards. The numbers may be briefly given as follows:—Mr. Watts, twenty; Mr. Mundy, ten, and the remaining fifteen between various persons who have fished there without permission. On Dec. 30, Mr. Pettifer had three fish which weighed 22 lb., the largest a heavy beauty of 11 lb. In the previous week the same gentleman also succeeded in taking ten more good fish. Below Eynsham on the 30th inst., another good one, weighing about 6 lb. was taken by Mr. Marsh. A smaller specimen of 1½ lb. fell to Mr. Cox; on the same day, Mr. Boscott, above the mill, had a two-pounder. Yesterday, whilst fishing along the water walk stretch, Mr. Davis landed one of 3 lb., and to-day (Thursday) Messrs. Roper and Watt's had four fish from the Wolvercote piece.—MEDLEY TROUT.

Maidenhead.

Fishing has been very good this last week, one gentleman alone getting 113 lb. weight in five days, principally chub, which have not been on the feed so well for the last three or four years in the Monkey Island waters, a great many of the fish going 3 to 4 lb., and one of 4 lb. 10 oz., a very handsome chub, and which the gentleman is going to have set up. The same gentleman also took a very handsome jack of 9 lb. 3 oz., one of 5 lb., and one of 4 lb. Perch have been feeding ravenously; the same gentleman took six dozen in less than three hours, but the majority of them under size; only two dozen were kept, three of these averaging over 1½ lb., and the others ¾ to 1 lb. There is no doubt in a year or two's time we shall have more good perch in the river than we have had for years past. Trout seem to be very forward this season: we have seen several fish these last three or four days on the move, and should the weather continue favourable, they will be in fine condition for the opening.—R. PLUMMER, sen.

Cookham.

Fishing with a gentleman on Saturday, caught 5 jack from 3 to 4 lb., and three more runs besides. On the 30th, fishing with Mr. W. Thoms (member of the Gresham) and friend, caught two jack, one 5 lb. and the other 4 lb. On Monday, fishing with another gentleman, caught 11½ lb. of very nice roach and one very handsome jack of 8 lb.

Datchet.

The water is very low and clear, not anything doing worth mentioning. On the 1st a man named Wells picked up a jack stranded between the sand bank and the tow path at Clewer Point; it weighed 25 lb.—G. LUMSDEN.

Goring.

Water in good order for all-round fishing. Sport during the past week:—have been out two days: First day, two jack and two dozen of perch; last day about two dozen of very good perch, and one jack.—JOHN RUSH.

Wraysbury.

Water just right for roach and chub fishing. Fish very fine, for water is bright for time of year. Bread and gentles appear to be most killing. I saw a nice pike of 25 lb., at the Railway Hotel, Windsor, on Tuesday last, that had that day been captured at Clewer Point, a splendid looking fish. I could not catch the name of the captor.

Ancholme District.

Cold easterly winds have prevailed during the last few days; as a consequence but few anglers have been out, and the sport has been indifferent. Last night we had a slight downfall of snow. Several ponds in the neighbourhood of Caistor are being prepared for the reception of coarse fish, and the River-head

Fishery will, I think, come a little to the front during the next season.—
THOMAS FORD, Caistor.

Avon (Binton, Bedford, &c.)

The river is still in excellent condition for all round fishing, but the sport has been very indifferent, roach and chub refusing the most delicate morsels in the shape of red worms, fat maggots &c., that could be offered them. Indeed there is something very peculiar in the habits of roach, chub, &c., in the Avon. They appear to become almost ravenous in localities at certain periods, or rather seasons. Three years ago it was the Stratford fish whose appetites appeared so insatiable that you had simply to drop a bait in to have it seized. Indeed, as one angler told me, there was no sport in it; it was extremely monotonous, skill, in fact, was at a discount. Since that time, however, anglers have wooed in vain; the fish, if there, turned their tails on them, and refused the most gentle persuasions and spurned every advance. Previous to this Binton had come prominently to the front, and good takes were to be had there, but during the last two years the fishing here has been very indifferent, and Bidford has been the successful locality. A few good bream have been secured in the Reddich Club water at Binton during the season, the writer having taken two over 5 lb., and seen one or two taken over 6 lb.; and one of our members has one "set up" which was taken in the same water, weighing something over 7 lb. The most notable take I have heard of this week was a pike, not very large, which was caught in "Palmer's Hole," at Binton. A travelling basket maker, or tinker, with the help of his sister, murdered his wife, and tried to conceal her in this hole, under the willow which grew, and still grows, there. The murderer, however, was taken; and in due course, as the custom then was, he was raised to a very high position among the good people of Binton, on a common there to the horror of little boys and, possibly, of older people. That exalted station, I believe, he held for twenty years. The above-mentioned pike having attempted an impossible feat in the same hole, has been raised on high above his fellows, and now figures, or is about to figure, in a glass case, as a warning, example, or object of curiosity.—J. E. BRYANT.

Avon (Bingwood).

We had Mr. Weldon Grossmith and Mr. Heather Bigg down here again at Christmas time, staying at the White Hart Inn, which is now kept by Mr. Ward, and you will be pleased to hear that they were well rewarded for their voluntary banishment from home at that festive season. The result of their fishing on Christmas eve and Boxing-day was over 100 lb. of pike and 24 lb. of good roach. Mr. Heather Bigg got a brace of ten-pounders; and all jack under 3 lb. and all roach under 4 lb. were returned to the water. Many of the roach taken by Mr. Weldon Grossmith were heavily scored with pike marks, and one of the pike, a fish of about 6 lb., had the tail of a smaller fish sticking out of its gills. This will indicate how well the pike were on the feed at the time.—B. A.

[We were unaware till we read this note that Mr. Heather Bigg, one of the most rising surgeons of the day, was also an angler.—ED.]

Chichester.

Dull and wretched weather the past week must account for the paucity of sport in this locality. In fact, but few anglers have been out. A jack of 3½ lb., a few bream and roach, are all I hear of. From Selham, no news this week, so suppose sport is dull in the Rother. Some fine pike have been seen near the mill and, with change of weather, will doubtless be accounted for.—GEORGE F. SALTER.

Colce.

Water in splendid order for all round fishing. Anglers down this week have been well rewarded; three gents, twelve pike; two gents, five pike; one gent, two chub, 3 lb. and 4 lb. One local, one pike, 6 lb., and one roach, 1½ lb. Two little boys (sons of Mr. P. Geen) have been taking roach up to 1¼ lb., they have bagged in three days over 14 lb. of nice roach out of the mill tail, close to the Station. Is. per day entitles any respectable angler to a day's good fishing here. Every information can be obtained of Mr. Barratt, at the mill.—ROACH.

Dove.

The first week of the New Year has been fairly favourable for winter fishing, the river having been in splendid order, and with the fins on the bottom biting freely. The cockspur worm continues as it has done for weeks past the best killing bait—grayling, chub, bream, roach, dace, perch, and even barbel all accepting it. Grayling, indeed, have scarcely of late been rising on the surface "the least little bit," and seeing how hopeless their chances were in the sunless fog, very few anglers have wasted their time on that description of fishing. Nothing, in my opinion, will produce an improvement but a good hearty spell of frost, accompanied by a bright sun in the middle of the day. Just now there is extremely little fly on the water, and grayling, as also all other kinds of fish, are finding their chief support on the bottom. The same causes that have affected the rising of grayling have no doubt operated in rendering the pike so quiescent. I can hear of nothing being done amongst them. Everybody complains that they are not moving, and thus they get nothing to repay them for their visits to the river-side. May next week witness a change is the dearest wish of—THE SPLODGER.

Exe and Barle (Dulverton.)

A remarkable instance of instinctive affection in fish was afforded before the close of the salmon fishing season in the river Exe near here, as follows: Mr. Routh hooked a good fish, and when playing him on her in a pool of considerable size, he was surprised to find a companion salmon chasing the hooked one, and when a pause happened, the free fish rubbed itself against the one hooked, and evidently did its best to free its mate. This went on for perhaps five minutes, and when the captive was near enough for gaffing, the wife, or the husband, might easily have been taken with the gaff, as it continued the rubbing, but the sportsman was too honourable to take such a mean advantage of its conjugal love. Such extraordinarily mild weather as we are now having should contribute to make the approaching trout season early.—CHAS. W. NELDER.

Exe (Exeter).

Nothing of note to record this week. Muggy wet weather. Last week, Mr. S. Kelmardine had a pike over 7 lb., and Mr. Anderson one 5 lb., near Cowley Bridge. Prospects are brighter now, and I hope to send a good all-round record next week, including good business.—J. A. KELLEY.

Ifracombe.

Sea fishing has been going on this week with little variation. Friday, 28th, Mr. Swift, a gentleman here visiting, had a short cruise in a pleasure boat for

the purpose of fishing. They ran as far as the Outfalls, and there brought up. He soon had the satisfaction of hauling in three or four congers, weighing between 30 lb. and 40 lb.; and several cod, from 15 lb. to 20 lb. each. A few large skate and ling have also been caught at the Spillers. F. Rudd, while fishing from the jetty with hand lines, caught a ling weighing about 30 lb. There is good sport with rod and hand lines from the rocks, pier head, and jetty for whiting, pout, tamin, and pollack. Weather at present very fine.—E. COMER.

Lark and Ouse.

Wednesday last, Bank Holiday, we had a turn at the roach in the Ouse, near Littleport, and the Lark, near Prickwillow, Andrew Antony, fishing with Mr. William Howlett, of Newmarket, landed 21½ lb. splendid roach. A better lot of fish no man could wish to look at, so clean, plump, and silvery, it really was a great treat to look at them. That there are tons of fish in the water is very certain, and they feed very well. We are very pleased to record the capture of one or two otters, and sincerely hope others may fall into the same hands.—G. E. COOPER.

Lugg and Arrow.

These streams still continue in fine order for the rod and line; the water is clear, and has gone down considerably. There are still the nasty fogs round the river, which makes it bad for anglers. On Saturday some very nice grayling were landed in the Lugg with the worm, and a splendid dish was caught with the grasshopper. In the Arrow a gentleman landed some splendid fish with the maggot and grasshopper, averaging from ½ lb. each. On Monday a gent visited the Arrow with the grasshopper and landed a very nice lot of fish. On Tuesday some very good fish were taken in the Arrow, and a splendid basket was landed from the Lugg. Wednesday being a fine day, a gent tried the water at Monkland, and caught a very nice lot of fish with the grasshopper. The Pinsley is in nice order, but rather low. A gent landed some very fine fish from it on Tuesday, and some more on Wednesday. The water at Earsland has been visited but little this week, and but few fish taken. A few fish have been landed in the Shobden part with the worm. The weather still keeps very cold, and rain is threatening these parts but the anglers are well pleased with the few fine days they have had, and the good lots of fish they have taken. The best killing bait is the grasshopper and a worm.—GWYNNE.

Medway (Tunbridge).

Water still in first-class condition, but owing to the damp, dirty weather very few anglers have been out but those who have ventured have in most instances secured takes. Now is the time for pike fishing, either spinning, trolling, or live baiting with a lively dace.—YE MEDWAY WATER RAT.

Nene (Northampton).

Fishing in this district has been very tame until the past fortnight, during which we have had some nice bags of fish taken in the private and public waters around the borough. On Thursday week one of the members of our police and a friend had a few hours' leisure, which they spent by the banks of Castle Ashby fish ponds, and managed to kill five brace of pike in a short space of time; the largest weighed 18 lb., in bad condition, measuring 39 inches from tip to tip. Professor Sadd has been having his usual luck, having killed some nice little pike. W. Turner, J. Seal, C. Eyte, G. Burrows, G. Wit, J. Whitehouse, C. Loe, G. Johnson, Bell, and Singlehurst have taken some nice bags of fish—roach, perch, chub, and pike. A large number of the members of the Northampton Working Men's Angling Society started from the club house—W. Rigby, the Halfmoon, Bridge Street—on Saturday last, to compete for prizes offered by the club; but the day being a bad one, the takes were small.—T. F.

Ouse and Ivel (Blunham).

Water in first-rate order; fish well on the feed. A good show of roach today (Thursday); and a very fine chub, weighing 3½ lb., was taken by Mr. Gilbert.—S. P. E.

Ouse (Huntingdon).

The year opens well for jack, the Ouse here being all that can be desired as to condition. Two gentlemen from London took 8 fish on Wednesday, and are out again, but I cannot tell you the result. I will send you a few reports during the coming season. Many of your readers will know my name.—J. M. MURKETT.

Ouse (Littleport).

Though the water is down to summer level—and those anglers who have been down have taken fish, I have no large takes to report this week. The following are a few of the best—Dec. 28th, Master Miller, Cambridge, 6 lb. roach. Mr. Alderton, Cambridge, 5 lb. roach, and Mr. Cox, Cambridge, 4 lbs. roach and silver bream. Dec. 29th, Mr. S. O. Beeman, Littleport, a nice show of roach, largest fish, 1 lb. 4 oz. Dec. 30th, Mr. Franz Hentschel, Cambridge, 4½ lbs. roach; Mr. J. Hutt, Cambridge, 5 lbs. roach; Mr. Allen, Cambridge, 5 lbs. roach and silver bream; Mr. G. Cox, Cambridge, 9½ lbs. a nice lot. Jan. 2nd, I tried myself for an hour, and got seven roach, going 3½ lbs. largest 1 lb. 2 oz. Jan. 3rd, Mr. H. C. Stearn, Cambridge, 5½ lbs. roach and silver bream; Mr. S. O. Beeman, a nice little show not weighed.

Severn (Shrewsbury).

Last Monday, in two hours, I took thirty-seven nice perch with the worm a mile below here. A friend got a pike 6 lb. and a 1½ lb. perch. River now in grand condition.—SEVERN GRAYLING.

There has been very little doing in the neighbourhood lately, although a few anglers have been out. The river has been unusually low for the time of the year, and the weather everything that could be wished. I was told by a gentleman the day before yesterday that several anglers were out on Christmas-day, and some were rewarded by fair catches. A man, who is well known in Shrewsbury under the alias of "Punch," had a fine basket of roach and dace selling the other day, which would certainly weigh 18 or 20 lb. among them being a fine roach of quite 1 lb. I have some news, which will cheer up the hearts of anglers in this district, and in fact all parts of the country, which I hope to be able to reveal next week; at present, for various reasons, it will be for the public advantage to keep it quiet. When accomplished, it will be one of the most important improvements which have taken place for some time in the angling world. Rain fell on Wednesday night, and no doubt will make a slight change in the condition of the water.—SEVERN SALMON.

Teme (Ludlow).

Anglers had better take advantage of the present prime state of the water which is in exceptionally good condition at present. The existing state of the streams cannot be expected to last much longer; in fact, rain fell in the night

and a nasty east wind has been blowing for a day or two, very adverse to patrons of the rod and line. A noted fly maker, a resident of Raven-lane, caught on Wednesday ten splendid grayling while fishing in the Corve with the grasshopper; the fish would weigh 1 lb. each at the least. Another "old hand" from Corve-street, visited the same river, and with a similar bait caught nineteen splendid grayling. We had great pleasure in looking over the lot in basket, and should imagine some of them weighed over 1 lb. each, we never saw a nicer lot. There is very little going up the Leintwardine waters. A large lot of salmon are still in this neighbourhood, and we have heard of some being hawked about for sale. We are glad to hear that the river keeper is taking proceedings against some parties who landed a live salmon from the Teme this week. The other day a fisherman was angling under the Whitcliffe with the grasshopper, when a salmon 8 or 10 lb. weight took the bait, and was with great difficulty landed. The fisherman acted in a very commendable manner, for he carefully returned the fish to the stream, none the worse for a visit to terra firma. It was immediately joined, on reaching the water, by another large salmon 20 lb. weight. Weather to-day beastly foggy.—S. LUDLOW.

Teme (Tenbury.)

This water is still in good fishing order, the water being clear, but lowering itself very fast; the fish are sporting and biting very well at present, and the water has had a good few visitors this week, which have had some very good luck. On Monday a gentleman visited the water near the town with the grasshopper, and landed a splendid basket of grayling, and a nice lot were taken with the worm. The weather being fine on Tuesday, a gentleman tried the water and landed a very nice lot of grayling. On Wednesday the grasshopper was used with great success; a gentleman landed a splendid basket, some weighing over 1 lb. each. The best catch we have heard of was a gentleman who, fishing in one of the small tributaries, landed some 20 fine fish; it is said they go there out of the reach of the salmon which visit this part once a year to spawn, many of which never go back, as they can be seen lying dead by the side of the water, some having been seen as much as a yard long. There were seen near the Little Hereford Bridge some dozen salmon sporting in the water; some were calculated to weigh over 20 lb. each. Some very good grayling have been taken in the Ledwyck this week with the grasshopper and worm. The Kyre and Rea are in good fishing order, but there has been but little doing in either this week. There is rain threatening this part, and a nasty fog hangs about the water, making it bad for fishing.—WORCESTER FENS.

Trent (Muskham).

On Monday afternoon, in two hours' fishing, I killed 7 pike, weighing 32 lb. Mr. J. Chatterton took 3, weighing 10 lb., and Mr. Curtis had 2, weighing about 9 lb. We were all fishing together in the Muskham Fishery.—D. SLATER.

Trent (Newark).

The water has been in capital condition all this week for pike and chub fishing, and a good many anglers have been out after those fish, but sport has not been general. A fortunate few have succeeded in making fairish bags, but blanks and odd fish have been more general than heavy bags. Messrs. Chatterton and Slater, fishing in the dead water of the Muskham Fishing last Monday afternoon succeeded in taking no less than ten nice jack, going 40 lb. the lot—biggest fish, 6 lb.—the whole being taken in 2½ hours. One angler, a stranger to me, got eleven very nice chub, with pith and brains, out of the Collingham Water last Tuesday, the lot going about 20 lb. On Monday, I saw another bag of six nice chub; and to-day I have heard of a few more being had. On Wednesday night and this morning rain has fallen very heavily, which will, I am afraid, spoil the pike and chub fishing, and so, most likely, the river will be in flood by the time this is in print, and nothing be practicable except trying the cockspur worm in the slacks and eddies.—THE TRENT OTTER.

Waveney (Beccles).

The water is now getting in a fairly good condition for all kinds of angling. There has been nothing to report during the last three weeks, and owing to the unfavourable state of the weather previous to and during the Christmas holidays, very few anglers ventured out. Those who did came home (as a rule) with empty baskets. Roach have been well on the feed during last two weeks. Jack fishing very low; a few fish have been taken, and special mention must be made of one taken near the bridge, weighing 10 lb. on the 21st by Mr. J. Mills. Fisherman Mark Mills has been out several days after pike, but has only been rewarded with small fish of 2 and 3 lbs. Those who feel inclined to do a bit of pike fishing should avail themselves of the present state of the water, and considering the recent floods, good sport may be anticipated. Wind S.W., prospects very good.—A WAVENEY ANGLER.

Wharfe (Yorkshire).

After sending my report last week the weather came in damp and foggy, but the river got into very nice order for worm fishing. Thursday was a real "red-letter day." I commenced at 10 o'clock a.m., and discontinued fishing at 4 p.m., when I found upon turning out my basket that I had 19 grayling, which weighed exactly 10 lb. I also caught 10 trout, which I, of course, returned to their native element; but the fact of their taking worm in the streams at this season of the year, proves how remarkably open the weather has been lately. Both the Wharfe and Yore are at present in first-rate order for grayling fishing.—FRANCIS M. WALBRAN.

Yore (Yorkshire).

I am spending the Christmas holidays in Wensleydale, and consequently cannot send my customary report on the Wharfe, but I will make amends by inserting one about the Yore. On Monday there was a full water of a nasty white colour, which was decidedly against sport with the grayling. Mr. G. Hellawell had about a dozen; Mr. J. Walker, of Leeds, three; Mr. Marshall, of Leeds, three; all these were caught with the worm. Nothing much has been done since up to-day, but the river is running in nicely, and towards the end of the week sport should be good. Christmas Day was a lovely day, just like summer. I am certain that had the waters been low and clear the fish would have taken fly, but of course there were no anglers out.—FRANCIS M. WALBRAN.

GEORGE JAMES EATON, of Starkholmes, Matlock-Bath, Derbyshire, respectfully invited Noblemen and Gentlemen to try his standard FLIES for the present season. No flies sent or made up but what he himself has proved sure killers. A trial is all that is required from gentlemen who can fish, to prove whether they may be genuine or not. Patronised by some of the best fishermen of the day. All flies dressed on the best Kendal hooks. Prices: Point Flies, 2s. 6d. per Dozen; Dropper Flies, 2s. per Dozen. Orders punctually attended to.—(ADVT.)

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

AMATEUR.—There is nothing very extraordinary in roach living for six hours out of water, especially when covered up as you describe these to have been. Thank you for the note, all the same.

E. E. S.—You may possibly get a carp on a mild day in winter; but in the cold months they take little if any food, and lie huddled together in the muddy bottom of the deepest part of the water. July to October are the best months for carp fishing. Tench will bite all the year round, though better in the warm than in the cold months. We caught a couple of fine tench when roach-fishing last week.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

[Want of space compels us to leave out many letters this week.—ED.]

THE THAMES FISHERY BY-LAWS.

NIGHT FISHING FROM THE BANK.

SIR,—On the 17th ultimo the readers of the FISHING GAZETTE were astounded at being informed that two Londoners had been fined for night fishing from the banks of the Thames, at Henley. However great may have been our astonishment it could scarcely have exceeded that of the two helpless men on being walked off, between an honorary keeper and a policeman, to the local lock-up, for doing that—and that on y—which the chairman of their society had told them was perfectly legal. Astonishment must give place to a totally different feeling when it is known that they were not only marched off to the lock-up, but detained there from the Saturday night until Monday morning, notwithstanding their willingness to give their names and addresses, which they were in a position to prove correct by the production of their "Railway Privilege Tickets." The ignorance of the honorary bailiff and country policeman is pardonable, if contrasted with the acumen displayed by the Bench of Magistrates in interpreting section (D) of By-Law 10, as prohibiting night-fishing from the bank. When I first read the report of these proceedings and remembered that I had on more than one occasion, in answer to inquiries at our Association meetings, announced that night-fishing by bank anglers was legal, it became my duty to write to the Thames Conservators on the subject, and I do not hesitate to say that anyone having so full a knowledge as myself of the drafting, altering, and redrafting of these By-Laws will agree with me that the answer of the Conservators most fittingly caps the absurd doings at Henley; but unfortunately for us, ridiculous as the conviction is, it stands against us, and what is more extraordinary than any other circumstance in connection with this most extraordinary case, the Conservators, as will be seen by the following correspondence, back it up.

Barnes, November 27th 1883.

DEAR SIR,—I am requested by the "West Central Association of London and Provincial Angling Societies," of which Association I have the honour to be President, to ask the attention of the Conservators of the river Thames to the enclosed report, which appeared in the FISHING GAZETTE, on the 17th instant, of a conviction under By-Law 10, section (D).

We should be very sorry to learn that the action taken by Mr. Simmons meets with the approval of your Board; indeed, we feel that we have every reason to hope that the Conservators when drafting this particular section could not have wished or intended to interfere with night-fishing by bank anglers.

Yours faithfully,

Captain Burstal, R.N.

P. GEEN.

41, Trinity Square, Tower Hill, 5th December, 1883.

DEAR SIR,—I have laid before the Conservators of the river Thames your letter of the 27th ultimo, in which you ask that the Conservators will not approve the action taken by Mr. Simmons in prosecuting bank anglers for angling at night, and am by them directed to state in reply thereto, that they feel they cannot express any opinion adverse to the decision of a Court of Justice in a case where proceedings have been taken against persons contravening the Thames By-Laws.

I am, SIR, your obedient servant,

P. Geen, Esq.

E. BURSTAL, sec.

Barnes, December 14th, 1883.

DEAR SIR,—I am in receipt of your letter of the 5th inst., for which I thank you. I am sorry to say that I am still in doubt upon the point which I was instructed to write you upon. I shall therefore feel much obliged if you will inform me whether the Conservators consider night-fishing from the bank legal or illegal.

Yours faithfully,

Captain Burstal, R.N.

PHILIP GEEN.

41, Trinity Square, Tower Hill, 17th December, 1883.

DEAR SIR,—In reply to your letter of the 14th instant, I beg to inform you that the Conservators have decided that angling from the bank between the first hour after sunset and the last hour before sunrise is contrary to the Thames Fishery By-Laws, 1883, and is consequently illegal.

I am, SIR, your obedient servant,

P. Geen, Esq.

E. BURSTAL.

These letters were read at the West Central Association meeting on Friday last, and during the discussion which ensued, strong opinions were expressed that the question must not be permitted to remain in its present unsatisfactory position, or be allowed to drift into a still worse one, by the snatching of further convictions of working-men anglers. A resolution followed requesting me to take the matter in hand again, with a view of getting a contrary decision, and thereby putting the onus of an appeal on the right shoulders.

I am anxious that every Thames angler should as clearly understand the position as I do myself, so that they may feel satisfied that the course determined on by the Association is a wise one—indeed, the only one open to them after the unwarrantable degradation which two of its members have been subjected to.

It is a well understood maxim that an Act of Parliament that prohibits the

doing of a certain thing at a given time, in no way interferes with the legality of its being done at any other time; or if a law makes it illegal to do a thing in a certain manner, it does not interfere with its being done in any other way: so this by-law, which says, it shall be illegal to "Fish from any vessel, boat, or punt except in the daytime," could not possibly be interpreted by a judge or me, or a magistrate as interfering with anyone excepting those fishing under the circumstances mentioned; but as I fear many may be inclined to adopt the decision arrived at by the Henley magistrates, the honorary bailiff, and the country policeman, I will proceed to prove beyond the shadow of a doubt that the by-law in question was drafted and adopted by the Board at Trinity Square, for the express purpose of permitting night fishing from the bank. No doubt many will think this a bold statement, yet it is more than justified by the facts. In June, 1882, the Board were no doubt anxious to put a stop to fishing under all circumstances after dark, and they drafted the following, which was advertised in the *Times* of July 12th.

It shall be illegal to

- (D) "Fish for or take, or attempt to take above Richmond Bridge, any fish except in the daytime—that is to say, between the beginning of the last hour before sunrise and the end of the first hour after sunset."

No doubt this would have effectually answered its purpose had it been allowed to pass into law; but if you remember, Sir, I wrote a letter which appeared in your *GAZETTE* of July 15th, 1882, calling attention to the necessity of immediate and united action, with a view to altering some of the advertised by-laws, and the Cannon Street conference resulted, where I and many others spoke strongly against depriving the poorer angler of the pleasure he derived from his Saturday night excursions to the riverside, and it was decided that an alteration in their favour should be insisted upon. The deputation which waited on the Conservators did insist upon it, and in reply to some remarks of mine, the chairman, Sir F. Nicholson, said their difficulty was that night-fishing was dangerous; punts were moored across the stream, something ran into them, and life was imperilled. A suggestion was then made, and assented to, that night-fishing from boats and punts should be stopped and fishing from the bank permitted; hence the adoption of the following to take the place of section (D), as above. Please contrast the two.

It shall be illegal to

- (D) "Fish from any vessel, boat, or punt, for or take, or attempt to take above Richmond Bridge, any fish except in the daytime, that is to say between the beginning of the last hour before sunrise and the end of the first hour after sunset."

No one can possibly understand the miserably weak and vacillating policy of the Conservators of the river Thames, as displayed on the subject of these by-laws, unless he is somewhat behind the scenes. Individually, they are no doubt to be esteemed and respected, but I cannot think of them as a body without being forcibly reminded of a schoolboy riddle, which asks, "Why does a dog wag his tail, and what would be the effect of the tail wagging the dog?" The accepted answer was that "A dog wagged his tail because the tail couldn't wag the dog, and that Nature was far too discreet to permit the possibility of such absurd results as would follow the tail wagging the dog." What a pity it is that Nature did not foresee and prevent the absurdities brought about by the up-river tail of the Conservancy wagging the whole body, and thereby succeed in landing them on the horns of such a dilemma as will require more than all the well-known skill of Sir Frederick to clear them from.

If the question of night-fishing were the only one upon which anglers feel somewhat sold, instead of its being the proverbial last straw, we should be inclined to hope that even yet they would reconsider their position, and assist us to set matters right; but we cannot forget that while our suggestions in respect to the size of jack and their fence months, the restrictions as to the use of the cast net, and the abolition of trailing &c., were in the first instance conceded, yet at the last moment they were taken away again, and now in the face of their own promises, and contrary to the by-law itself, which they drafted for the very opposite purpose, they permit and approve of their agents pouncing down on, and imprisoning two men who were made absolutely helpless by being tried before they were permitted to communicate with friends whose duty it would have been to advise and assist them.

Under these circumstances we are compelled to appeal to the law for the law's vindication, and, if necessary, we shall not hesitate to give such evidence out of the mouths of some of the Conservators themselves, as will show as plainly as I have done that section (D) was redrafted by them for the purpose of permitting night-fishing from the bank.

Yours &c.,

Barnes.

PHILIP GEEN.

THE AWARDS.

SIR,—I trust you will allow us to reply to the extraordinary letters that have appeared in your paper from Mr. Hardy in defence of the Jurors in division No. 12 of the late Fisheries Exhibition. I should certainly never have done so, had not reference been made to our exhibit, as I think his first letter is fully answered by the fact that amongst all the exhibitors he is the only one who has come forward with a so-called defence. This, however, when examined, will be found to be more a laudation of Messrs. Hardy's goods and accomplishments, and a running down of the London Tackle Trade, than a defence of the Jurors, the points he having brought forward in their defence being the very ones that have brought the well-merited abuse they have received upon them, the first point mentioned by Mr. Hardy being the careful examination by means of microscopes, &c. He, however, is careful not to mention that the Juror, Mr. Kelson, "as there was only one" who proposed and carried out this examination, was laughed at as being crotchety, and asked to leave, and his report, never acted on (see *FISHING GAZETTE*, Oct. 27th, Mr. Kelson's report). The second point was the system of numbering by figures of merit of the different classes of goods: this, as Mr. Hardy says, truly could hardly fail to secure a correct verdict, if properly carried out. Whether correctly carried out or not, we know from Mr. Kelson's report they were not acted on, as in it he states, "The awards were made up at a meeting, at which the Jurors had not their note books, and that the list was made up entirely from memory." We are especially sufferers from this, as Mr. Kelson says that in the figure of merit as in their note books we stood No. 1, and in the one compiled from memory we are placed No. 3. Mr. Hardy could not have been ignorant of this when he wrote his statement, as he came to my stall at the Exhibition, and got the paper and read it while standing there. With respect to the third point, that they were the best judges it was possible to get, I can safely say that no other exhibitor, except Mr. Hardy, would have made such a statement. The best

proof I can give, if it were needed, of its absurdity, is to contrast the hap-hazard, happy-go-lucky way the other six Jurors went about their work compared with Mr. Kelson. I may say of him that, in my opinion, as a judge he knew more about the practical details than all others put together, and that outside the trade I have never met with one who was so thoroughly capable of judging of the quality of tackle as he was, and, in speaking of the incapacity of the Jurors, I do not, of course, include him. The way he examined and tested the joints of the rods and the flies and lines was enough to show to a tackle maker that he, at least, knew the work he had undertaken. Not one of the other Jurors took the trouble to examine the joints of a single rod, or were they even capable of distinguishing as to the quality of the different goods placed before them, they taking, in a great many cases, more time to examine goods of an inferior quality than they did those of the very best. I am very much amused at the contemptuous tone and the sneers which Mr. Hardy adopts at the expense of the London houses as compared with the provincial. This, I think, will show to practical anglers—we saw the cases there—Mr. Hardy's wilful misrepresentation more than anything I can write in their favour, and I have no hesitation in asserting, and I know will be backed up by the trade, in saying that there were, at least, four London houses who showed trout and salmon tackle far superior to anything shown by Mr. Hardy or the majority of the provincial tackle makers. I, of course, speak as to the material and workmanship. I should like to ask Mr. Hardy why it was, if he considers provincial makers' goods so superior, and as he is setting himself up as our champion, that in his own case he did not show more goods of his own manufacture?—about three fourths of the goods in his case not having been made in Alnwick, but supplied from different wholesale houses, and several of the cheaper London houses showing the same makers' goods.

I now come to speak of our own case: Mr. Hardy's reply to Mr. McNee's inquiry as to the performance of the salmon rods. I am, indeed, surprised to learn for the first time that there was no authentic record kept of the casts as made by the judges, especially as the prizes were to be awarded in accordance with these results. I can quite believe, however, Mr. Hardy has made a mistake as to this, as he seems to have got rather mixed in the matter; the parties he alludes to as having made the longest casts not being judges at all, but simply exhibitors showing off their own, or employed to show off other people's goods. As I was personally present during the whole time the judges tried the rods (salmon), and for my own satisfaction took down in my note book the distances as thrown by Mr. Kelson with the different rods, he throwing several yards further with every rod tried than any of the other judges, I can inform Mr. Hardy that the distances as given by Mr. McNee are correct, and that Mr. Kelson did, with an 18 ft. rod (the competition being confined to 17 ft. and 18 ft. rods), throw four yards further, overhead casting, and nearly ten yards further, switching, than he did with Farlow's, our rod being the only rod tried, which switched and threw overhead the same distance, none of the other rods being able to switch within several yards of their overhead casts. The rods of a firm which has been awarded two gold medals were a long way behind all the others, and were the only ones that showed defective workmanship, the joints coming loose and having to be tied before they could be used.

In conclusion, I may state that so thoroughly satisfied have our house been of the utter incapacity of the judges and the unfairness of the Awards, that they at once declined to accept the five medals awarded them and we have since heard that a number of other exhibitors have done the same.

Apologising for the length I have written.—I am, &c.,

ROBT. ANDERSON

(Of R. Anderson and Sons, Fishing Tackle Makers
by Special Appointment to Her Majesty).

56, Princes Street, Edinburgh, and Athole Street, Dunkeld.

[The casting at the *FISHING GAZETTE* Angling Tournament at the Welsh Harp, and the testing of the rods at South Kensington, seem to have been mixed up by our correspondents. It will make matters clear when we say Mr. Kelson was not present at the Tournament at the Welsh Harp, and his casting was all done in the Exhibition Ground in presence of the judges. We did not see him cast, but well remember the frank admiration which Mr. Reuben Wood expressed to us at Mr. Kelson's casting. He said: "Mr. Kelson can do anything with a rod; he beat us all. Never saw a man who can handle a salmon rod as Mr. Kelson can."—ED.]

THE AWARDS.

SIR,—We were naturally aggrieved at Mr. Hardy's attack on the metropolitan trade, yet we wish him success, as a brother chip, in his wanton use of the columns of the *FISHING GAZETTE*. But Mr. Hardy blows hot and cold—he, the first to send in a protest to the Fisheries complaining of the unfairness of the jury, and now vainly attempting to soften and soothe—fishing only for customers with bait unearthed from impure material.

Mr. Kelson never attempted to throw farther than Mr. Mallock or Mr. Wood, and the rod of the former was not stiff, in that gentleman's opinion, and was more suited for the cast which he (Mr. Hardy) refers to, than for the more valuable modes of presenting salmon flies which were only satisfactory demonstrated by Mr. Kelson, and that Mr. Wood admitted.—I am, &c.,

F. T. WILLIAMS AND CO.,

10, Great Queen Street, W.C., Jan. 3.

THE AWARDS.

SIR,—I do not care to argue with a man who so soon loses his temper as Mr. Hardy, and if such is the case he must be left to recover. As I hope to meet him again on the battlefield, I think that will be the proper place to decide as to the merits of our respective manufactures.

He was considerate enough not to say anything about the joining of my rods (still the most important part of cane-rod making), but contents himself with silly, unmeaning prattle. Black thread seems to have sent him into hysterics. I can assure him it existed only in his own wild imagination, as I certainly have never used any. He speaks of my five-side cane rod. May I be allowed to say that I have made more six-side cane rods than five, and continue to do so, although I had not one at the Exhibition?

I will be content to be judged by the public, or those of the public who, have been good enough to purchase my rods (not one of which has been returned or complained of), and will not further trouble this gentleman, who ought to have been judge and jury, and not like myself a simple exhibitor. Wishing you, Sir, and all your readers, a Happy New Year.—I am, &c.,

T. L. ANDREWS.

High-street, Uppingham, January 1, 1884.

PRIVATE WATERS.

The following letter having appeared in the *Field*, has elicited the reply which follows it from the honorary secretary of the Henley and District Fishery Association.—Yours, &c.,

PRIVATE WATERS.

SIR,—Permit me to ask through your columns by what right the Loddon and the St. Patrick rivers have been declared private waters? Riparian proprietors have a trick of putting up notices, catching some poor labourer, and securing a conviction against him for trespass. After that it is plain sailing. In this case I hear of a gentleman who has fished those streams for years, and lives in the neighbourhood. He says he would head a £500 subscription list to fight the question. For my part, I am no angler. But I love snipe and duck shooting very dearly, and I occasionally get a man to row me down the Loddon. I am told that the Henley Association claim a right to prosecute me for trespass if they catch me. Till they can prove that right, I shall continue to row down the Loddon when I feel so disposed. If the association want to protect their fishing "rights" (I use the word with reserve), let them do so in the proper way—employ keepers to watch the water. It is preposterous that, to save themselves that expense, they should claim to prevent row boats from passing down the river. I hope this matter will be taken up in earnest.

Slough.

J. W. GREEN.

Henley and District Fishery Protection Association.
Dec. 31st, 1883.

To the Editor of the *Field*.

SIR,—You over-ardent and, therefore, unreasoning correspondent, J. W. Green, of Slough, asks you to post up his inquiry, "By what right the above waters have been declared private? and, like the Roman, he pauses for a reply. Now, it is rather an astounding thing to ask a man what title he has to his property; and one might almost be excused replying to the impertinence by answering back another question—"What concern is that of you?" However, I will acquaint him that these waters have never been other than private. They came into the hands of the present owner's predecessors but a very few years back by purchase, and, of course, after the usual approval of the title by Counsel.

Now, public rights are not set up by any amount of assiduity on the part of a few inveterate and incorrigible trespassers of any class prowling about other persons' land, whether water is thereon or otherwise—fishing, or duck and snipe shooting—where they have not the slightest excuse to go; nor, however long the nuisance may be endured by owners who may be supine on such matters, or indisposed to the trouble of prosecuting, will they be debarred at any time from summarily stopping the encroachment.

I suppose, now, the modest Mr. J. W. Green, of Slough, will not pretend that he personally has any rights against another man's property. Let me offer him a fact, by the way of caution, about his duck and snipe shooting on these streams. A person whose social position is, perhaps, not inferior to his, was summoned for this same trespass which he committed under the uncontrolled impulse to shoot about the Loddon. The case being heard before the local Bench at Wokingham, and although he escaped conviction because a technical point of evidence was not adduced, he was denied costs, as the Bench decided that he was acting unlawfully, for which he would have incurred a penalty but for the lache of the prosecution, and the expenses he paid cost about £8.

Under somewhat changed circumstances, the shooting is now strictly protected. There are several keepers, and our friend Green may have to pay dearly for any future *promenade à beau* after ducks and snipe.

Any one, with only a few scraps of legal knowledge must know that nowhere are there any places where sporting pursuits can be followed with the sanction of a public right. Even the wide, unenclosed commons may not be shot over. In the case of angling formerly, and even now, small regard was had for the coarse fish of our rivers. In the early days of railways, and before that time, very few persons—and those generally not of any inferior class—went on rural fishing excursions, and the generous sympathy with sport, common to all who owned or tenanted lands and waters yielded generally a ready compliance with a civil request for a day's fishing. Very soon, however, the facility of going moderate distances into the country and the setting up of angling clubs, that have worked nothing but evil in the interests of the real angler, multiplied the irruption of "rodsters," and quiet and out-of-the-way places were particularly sought, for obvious reasons. Then prize fishing and pegged down matches, and other demonstrative absurdities of the angling clubs made the whole practice a nuisance, and the action of suppression and exclusion, as might be expected, ensued; whereupon a host of ill-informed persons, who had inferred from many years of indolent toleration that "the fishing belonged to nobody," or "that anybody had a right to fish here and there," set up such claims of public rights which every sensible person knows cannot exist, except in a very few special cases. Of the latter, the navigable waters of the Thames as a highway, of which the soil vests in the Crown, and other such navigable rivers, are instances at least, according to the dicta of several great judicial authorities of past time.

There are a few angling clubs in London whose members are entitled to respect, and doubtless many of a lower grade, even to the lowest, contain respectable and reputable artisans and working men, and we would scrupulously recognise these exceptions; but otherwise many of the clubs consist of members who, in their entire get-up, conduct out, and appearance, are unmitigated roughs whom indiscriminating publicans have organised as elements in the promotion of trade. Nor are the great railway companies free from reproach, that, suffering themselves to be led by specious sentiment or driven by persistent importunities of interested wire-pullers, they have granted anglers' tickets at reduced fares to members of clubs, and let loose upon the country, especially on a Sunday, these unsavoury hordes, unleavened by a single spark of the pure genius of the "contemplative man's recreation," but publicans' thralls, mostly, and truly the railways serve the publicans thereby, and none others.

It will clear away all further questions about these waters being private property to state that when the Henley and Reading Societies jointly became the tenants, no new state of things was established; they only succeeded to a previous tenancy on a rent under which eels were taken, and the waters netted out of other fish, so that it will take about three years' of preservation to restore the stock, so necessary for sport. This netting and continual poaching impoverished the Thames in that locality. To put an end to this, and to rid the waters and the farmers of their London visitants, who also prowled about with guns and dogs, induced the above societies being installed as tenants, much to the satisfaction of the landowners. And the area covered by the tenancy is roundly and comprehensively described as bounded on the north by the Thames; between the inlet of the Patrick stream, next Sonning, westward; and the outlet of the river Loddon, at Wargrave, eastward; and on the

south, by the Great Western Railway, going westward, and containing the Patrick stream and river Loddon, and all tributaries watercourses, and ditches within these limits.

In the first month (September) after the lettings were completed to us, upwards of eighty persons were warned off, and there are yet some two or three individuals whom we shall assuredly summons for trespass to Wokingham if they repeat their offences, and we can ascertain their names and addresses.

Mr. Green asks why we do not protect our fishery by employing keepers in sufficient numbers? Why should we be put to excessive expense to keep off unprincipled marauders? Does he mean to say that the principle of the security of property is just keep what you can? And is his approbation bestowed upon the Spartan virtue of audacious theft which escapes detection?

As for the individual who would like to head a £500 subscription to fight the owners on the disposition of their property, we can think of that when he has got his hare.—I am, &c.

J. W. KNIGHT,

Hon. Sec Fishery Protection Association

[We believe this bumptious "Honorary Secretary" was the principal means of getting the two London club anglers locked-up for bank-fishing in the Thames after dark, although the Thames by laws expressly sanction fishing from the bank, as pointed out by Mr. Green in his letter on the subject this week.—ED.]

THE YORKSHIRE FISHING BOARD.

SIR,—Seeing the Wharfe has again been alluded to at the annual meeting of the above board, I quite agree with you, it is high time the opinions of anglers in the Wharfe should be heard, and therefore, I beg to trespass some little upon your kindness. I look upon the introduction of salmon into the higher reaches of the Wharfe as one of the greatest calamities that can befall trout anglers. My experience of salmon rivers is somewhat limited, but the annoyance of not being able to make a single cast without hooking one of those wretched little smelts, is disgusting in the extreme, and then again, above Addingham, there are no long deeps and as the water runs very low for several months in the year, the trout all make to a few dubs.

I wonder how they will fare there when Mr. Salmon is introduced. As it is, Wharfe trout are not to be compared to Aire trout. The Wharfe is a quicker stream than the Aire, much wider, and of a different bottom; but lastly, you justly say, in case salmon are introduced, the difficulties of getting a day's fishing will be greatly increased (if obtainable at all). As it is, Sir, we have to travel some thirty miles, somewhat better in this respect than our London friends, who, I see, have to travel some 50 miles for trout fishing.

Surely because civilisation is concentrating large masses of people, amongst whom, unfortunately, thousands of true sportsmen are forced to exist for the miserable necessity of food and clothing, it seems uncommonly hard that they are to be still further tortured by being deprived of a day's sport now and then—the only thing which makes life bearable—and by whom? The wealthy few, the salmon fisher, who can pay any sum, and it is often the case that these men are not sportsmen by birth, but simply capitalists who go in for fishing and shooting because it is the proper thing.

I have always advocated that all true sportsmen (regardless of position) have a right to enjoy their sport, even in the teeth of unhealthy and hypocritical legislation, and therefore shall most strenuously oppose any movement of the Yorkshire Fishery Board which will in the least cripple our sport.

As many of these gentlemen are wealthy, surely Ireland or Scotland should satisfy them, without ultimately buying up the Wharfe.—I am, &c.,

Bradford.

DEMOCRAT.

YORKSHIRE FISHERY BOARD.

SIR,—I am glad that you found space enough in the *GAZETTE* of last week to give your readers that large extract from the report of the Hon. Secretary to the Yorkshire Fishery Board. The matters that you touched upon in it are very important ones to us Yorkshire anglers, and I trust that I am not the only one who will accept your invitation to speak out on the question.

There is one part of that report upon which all anglers will be thoroughly agreed—that of the tax upon nets and night lines. We were disappointed that the regulations were not put in force for the last season, though I am aware that that was no fault of the Conservators, or their respected secretary, Mr. Phillips.

Our Yorkshire trout streams are just ruined with those abominable "click nets" (cowl nets they are sometimes called.) Whenever there is a big river these nets are brought out, by tenant farmers, by farm servants, by loose fellows in hamlets on the riverside; and the fish being compelled to take refuge in quiet corners, are easily taken in great numbers.

On one such day in the last summer, there were eleven of these nets out at one time, at Buckden, a village in Upper Wharfedale, just above the splendid water of the famous Kilsay Club. Then all the way down the river where there is a piece of water that is not strictly preserved—and even in some preserves this right is reserved by the tenant—these nets are put in, and take more fish than could be taken by all the fair angling throughout the season. The river Yore, in the Hawes length, is similarly impoverished, and the Swale, I believe, suffers even more.

I have frequently enquired of anglers upon the spot whether, in their opinion, a tax of £1 13s. 4d. would deter these netters, and I have always received the reply that it would; that few, if any, would care to pay so much for the privilege which they now follow so industriously upon every available occasion.

I do trust that the proposed regulations will be adopted early next spring, and due provision made for enforcing them, by police officers or water bailiffs, who will thus be able in an official capacity to take the necessary steps, without creating that bitterness which is always engendered whenever any unofficial personage puts the law in force.

I have already said more than I at first intended, and must defer the introduction of the salmon question to another time.—Yours, &c., WHARFE,
January 1st, 1884.

YORKSHIRE FISHERY DISTRICT.

SIR,—You allude, under this heading in your last issue, to the long discussion which appeared in your columns on the subject of the contamination of the river Wharfe, and the corroboration so emphatically given by Mr. Phillips in his official annual report to the Board of Conservancy of the Yorkshire Fishery District, the entire gist of which you fully endorse.

Yet, Sir, your readers will perhaps recall the statement I made to identically the same effect so prejudicial to the state of the Wharfe at Otley, and

how such were impugned by some of your correspondents actually located close to the banks of that river.

As I wrote from experience—the result of my personal inspection of the water, which, it will be remembered, I used as ink to write to some of the London journals—Mr. Phillips's confirmation of the truth, and the truth of which you endorse, is some comfort and consolation, however tardily administered, to my credit for veracity.—I am, &c.,

CREEL.

[During a recent visit to the Wharfe we walked past a great many of the offensive drains which pour their filth into the Wharfe, near Otley and Ilkley, and judging from the great variety in the colour of the stuff they pour out, it would not be difficult for "Creel" (who is an artist) to paint a gorgeous allegorical picture of the decline and fall of the Wharfe Fisheries, by dipping his brushes in these detestable tributaries of the Wharfe. The only consolation we found was that few of these drains poured in a constant stream, and the great body of flood water coming down the river was clear as glass. But after the statements of Mr. Phillips, every angler who loves this noble river should do his best to get all dangerous impurities kept out of it.—ED.]

ENCROACHMENTS ON THE THAMES.

SIR,—My letter to you of November 8 has brought for me a large number of replies, which disclose a variety of encroachments upon the free use of the Thames, and, in all probability, when the matter has been more fully ventilated, other cases will be reported.

The value of the river as a resort for recreation by the crowded masses of London can scarcely be over-estimated, and is rapidly increasing, and no time should be lost in taking steps to secure it permanently for the public benefit.

For, as the rights of common exercisable over the commons and open spaces in the neighbourhood of the metropolis were, though seldom exercised, the means of saving those commons as recreation grounds, so the rights of navigation over that part of the Thames now little used for commercial purposes may do good service in preserving it as a pleasure resort.

With this object the Commons Preservation Society, at their last meeting, determined to take steps for procuring a thorough investigation of the subject; but the task of making the necessary inquiries as to the alleged encroachments and ascertaining the rights of parties, is one which will demand a considerable expenditure beyond what the society are able to devote to this particular object.

I am therefore requested to invite the aid of such of your readers who are interested in this important matter, by supporting the society pecuniarily as well as by information.

Contributions will be received by Messrs. Ransom, Bouverie, and Co., of No. 1, Pall Mall East, the society's bankers, and by me.—I am, &c.,

FDWD W. FITHIAN, sec.

I, Great College Street, Westminster.

STEAM TUGS ON THE THAMES.

SIR,—Having noticed the correspondence on steam tugs, I think it quite time something was done to put a stop to the pace they go at and the damage they do to the banks and other property by their wash. It is not safe for anyone to be in a boat or punt when they are passing, for they never think of shutting off steam or trying to avoid a wash; and, if you speak to them, all you get is abuse. I have cautioned Timmins several times myself, and all I got from him was abuse. Only about a fortnight since, one of his tugs came by and threw the water over the bank four feet high, washed one of my punts upon the landing steps, broke the chain and, of course, the punt went adrift. When I spoke to him about it, he bawled out, he was "only going half-speed"; and I should think he was not going less than ten or twelve miles an hour. About three or four hundred yards below my house, just after one of these tugs had passed, I saw more than two tons of the bank give way; in fact, I had only just got clear of the corner when it fell in. One of these heavy tugs do more harm than ten small launches, for gentlemen, as a rule, will ease when passing boats and narrow places on the Thames. I am determined the next time Timmins comes down at such a speed to summon him, which I shall be sorry to do; but I have cautioned him so many times, and he takes no notice.—I am, &c.,

Monkey Island.

R. PLUMMER.

PACE OF STEAM TUGS ON THE THAMES.

SIR,—With reference to Mr. Mackrill's, of Kingston, letter, in your last number, I think I can give him a satisfactory reply, and one which will likewise be appreciated by others of your readers.

Does it not occur to him that it would be useless anglers paying money to an association to put fast steamers down? Where can they have a better and cheaper one than in the Thames Conservancy, backed by their Acts of Parliament and their by-laws, which are quite sufficient to cope with Timmins, who is a notorious offender, and has been, to my knowledge, several times fined on the report of Captain Etheridge? And now that the new Act is in force, two convictions will remove him from the river.

Does it not further impress itself upon Mr. Mackrill's mind that it is impossible for the Conservators to be present upon the river in more than a few of these fast-steaming cases, as it is only occasionally their officers are personally witnesses to them?

The blame, Mr. Editor—and I say it emphatically and advisedly—rests with the public themselves for not reporting at once what they witness, and the inconvenience and danger they have been subjected to between Oxford and the City Stone, to Captain Etheridge, Reading; below the City Stone, to the inspector, Mr. Little; and above Oxford, to the inspector, Mr. Edwards;—such informants being prepared to come forward as witnesses when the Conservancy prosecute, and not to hang back as they generally do, which is the chief cause of the continuance of the offence.

All anglers' hotel keepers who own boats or have them to let and get such craft damaged by the excessive speed and wash, and all boat letters and others on both sides of the river should not spare tugs or launches. If this were done, the nuisance would be soon overcome now under the present Act, which is in force from the 1st January, 1884.

The officers of the Conservators know full well that the magistrates must have full and clear evidence before they can convict. Hence the necessity of those witnessing these fast-steaming cases coming forward. I know that the tug "Queen" is generally in charge of young Timmins himself, and if any angler or other can get two convictions against him, he will be prevented from working the steamer for six months at least. Tugs, pleasure steamers, and those carrying passengers are all included. The Act is passed in the interest of the public, and they are to blame if they do not take advantage of its provisions, which are especially drafted for their benefit.—I am, &c.,

CREEL.

THE RICHMOND PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

SIR,—Having resigned the secretaryship of the above society, I have to thank you for so kindly and attentively inserting in the columns of the FISHING GAZETTE reports with reference to the proceedings of the Richmond Piscatorialists which from time to time I have had the great pleasure of forwarding you.—I am, &c.,

JOHN H. GAUNT.

Station Hotel, January 3

FISH CULTURE.

SIR,—The article, "Much Can be Done with Little Water," appeared to me the most interesting of the many which were published in the Christmas number of the FISHING GAZETTE. The results obtained are indeed wonderful, and the whole process seems very simple, and with care easily carried out. I know the article will greatly encourage one of our members (Mr. Sergenson) who is employing his leisure hours in this particular way, and who is an enthusiast in the breeding and rearing of trout. He feels quite sure of success, and I think he certainly deserves to succeed, as does anyone who turns his attention to fish culture. Mr. S. has kindly promised that we shall have the young trout he breeds to put into our reservoir.

The yearling trout we obtained from Shropshire for ornamenting our dinner-table on the 15th Nov. last are "all alive and kicking." It is a peculiar feature that they appear to have quietly settled down in their new home, each of them having selected a "berth" for himself, and rigidly do they adhere to each particular location. Sometimes the larger ones will take a sail round, and then, of course, the smaller ones have to "move on," but they return immediately the tyrant has shown them his tail. I am told they are "growing," and I hope so, indeed, as this would be good news. Wishing you the compliments of the season.—I am, &c.,

R. WOOLFALL hon. sec.

Dec 26.

Liverpool Angling Association.

THAMES FLOUNDERS.

SIR,—Kindly allow me a few last words. I really begin to think, with "I. C. U.," I am in a very thick fog indeed.

I know pretty well by this time how I got in; but how to get out again, that is the difficulty.

I am greatly obliged to "I. C. U." for pointing out the blunder. "A clean knock me-down blow, sir," as little Jimmy Harrington used to say. The worst of it is "the Trent Otter" will grin like a Cheshire cat. I must have known there were plenty in the tidal portion of the river. The fact is, the notes were sent off in a great hurry, and this must be my excuse for the mistake. Whilst on this subject, perhaps "I. C. U." will kindly answer the following. I am asking solely for myself.

1. What is the greatest distance they ascend the Thames? Of course they have no difficulty in passing the locks.
2. What are dabs? I go to one book and find, "Allied to the flounder." I go to another and find, "A species of fluke." I ask one gentleman and he says, "Dab! dab! A young plaice." I ask another, and he says, "A young sole." I then ask "Philo," "Dab! dab! A young flounder, decidedly." Very good; then may I ask when they cease to be called dabs, and at what weight are they called flounders?
3. Do they migrate to the sea at any part of the year? If so, what month, and at what month do they return?
4. When do they spawn; and how long are they before they regain their proper flavour?
5. Do the netters ply their trade between these periods?
6. Of what does the food of these flounders chiefly consist?
7. Is there no law to prevent so many very small flounders being destroyed?
8. Supposing I wanted to stock a river, &c., would these netters be justified in selling me a large number, say eight or ten thousand? Would it be illegal? If you say "yes," then such purchases are surreptitious purchases. Please say.
9. Can the public legally put in night lines to catch these flounders?
10. If such enormous numbers are taken in one day, how is the supply kept up?
11. Will netting ever be allowed at Kingston?
12. Supposing three boats caught 100 dozen each in one day, how would the men get rid of them?

Supposing one man sold his at Putney and the surrounding villages, another sent them bang off to Billingsgate, and the third sold them to London fishmongers, could you possibly tell me what would each be likely to get per lb? I particularly want to know this. The "Trent Otter" says "I have known this fish fetch as much as 6d. and 8d. per lb." Wishing "I. C. U." Esq., yourself, and all the readers of THE FISHING GAZETTE a Happy New Year, I am, &c.,

MARK ANTONY.

P.S.—Through the kindness of a friend I have at last obtained something like a description of this fish. The great Philo was again wrong. Dab (*Platessa Limanda*), a fish belonging to the family of the Pleuroneidæ or flat fishes, which comprise also the soles, turbot, halibut, as well as the plaice and the flounder, which last two are included in the same genus with the dab. It is characterised by a prominent line between the eyes, which are rather large, a lateral line strongly curved above the pectoral fins, and especially by having rougher scales than the other members of the same genus. If you recollect you stated the scales of the flounder were very small, but they had scales. This last characteristic is that to which it owes its specific name, derived from the Latin *lina*, a file. It is a pale, brownish colour, spotted with white on the side which it usually keeps uppermost when resting on the seabottom, and white on the underside. Then it would appear from this it has the power of turning topsy-turvy, and lying on its back. It is common on the coasts of Britain and in the Mediterranean, and its flesh is more esteemed than that of the flounder, especially from the end of January to April, when it is in the best condition. I am told the Thames dab is particularly good.

DRESSING FOR LINES.

SIR,—Everyone has a perfect right to his own opinion. For my part, I do not believe in surface dressing, providing the line is thoroughly saturated with the composition. The cork will be found, if used as I directed, to take off all the surface dressing, still leaving a beautifully smooth surface, and the outlay of a couple of shillings will dress sufficient lines to last the most enthusiastic angler twelve months. Of course, with those prefer surface dressing the cork will not act. I enclose a small piece of fine square plait, silk dressed with the aid of a cork, and am sure it will suit even the very particular Mr. Marston.—I am, &c.,

CHARLIE SOUTH.

[It is very good indeed.—ED.]

"A CHAT ON SALMON FISHING."

SIR,—I am a very old salmon angler, and derived the greatest pleasure from reading all the observations in Mr. Kelson's admirable letter, which appeared in your journal of the 22nd December last. What I most especially laud are his grand hints to the "young," and his (if accepted) proper admonitions against the absurd customs of many obstinate and sadly prejudiced old hands, for they always think that what they say cannot be contradicted. You will often hear men, who have a great superabundance of what Mr. K. calls "Fishermen's weight," talking of the grand throws they have made, 35 yards being quite a common announcement, and that some of their friends (I trust that their name is not legion), having thrown 40 yards, &c.—increasing the length of the throw according to the credulity, or ignorance of the party addressed,—in fact trying to make themselves out to be grand fishermen by "tall talk." Mr. K. quietly remarks, "25 yards of line may always be depended upon for a cast," and in my humble opinion a cast beyond that is much more likely, by nine times out of 10 being badly executed, to frighten a fish than to raise him, and even if he is risen, with so much slack line out, the chances are greatly against properly hooking and landing him, especially as many keep their hands over the line, and by the check thus caused break even a very good hold. I have often in my travels come across men who seldom use any other but what they call "the slashing cast" (but which I call the splashing cast). Doubtless this is very useful when trees or high ground behind, &c., interfere; but should, I think, seldom be used in open water, where other men may fish. The line (which is, I believe, tapered to the fly), about the thickness of a cod line, being constantly drawn over the stream would alone shy the fish, to say nothing of what they call a playful way of showing the fly, which in general consists in flopping the line with a quick jerk on the top of the water, which at a short distance would make you think that the sea serpent had got into the river—so different from the proper movement so clearly explained by Mr. K. I am glad to say that at present we have no slashers that I know of over the splendid streams of the Blackwater. I have used double hooks from their first coming out, and nothing will persuade me to return to the single ones again. I must apologise for taking up so much of your valuable space with these observations; but I am so charmed with all Mr. K. has written, that I cannot resist thanking him for his most interesting letter.—I am, &c.,

Fermoy, December 29.

OLD TROUT.

HEIGHAM SOUNDS.

SIR,—Would you please allow me to inform your readers that the case of the right of fishing on Heigham Sounds comes on for hearing on the 11th inst. at Court of Queen's Bench, and that we have not sufficient funds for legal expenses, in consequence of which the society have gone to the expense of send-

ing me to London to collect and solicit subscriptions to enable us to pay the same, and I should feel very grateful if all those whom I may not have time to wait upon will forthwith send on any subscriptions to our treasurer, H. Mitchell, Esq., M.D., Yarmouth, who will be only too pleased to acknowledge. Mr. W. H. Brougham has kindly permitted me, while in London, to have letters sent to his office, 7, Ironmonger Lane, E.C.—I am, &c.,

January 2, 1884.

JAMES LARK, hon. sec.

[We have elsewhere referred to this most important matter.—ED.]

SEMMER WATER.

SIR,—I see in last week's GAZETTE you state that "your impression" is that there is not much food for trout in Semmer Water. I take the liberty, as an old angler on the Semmer Water, to put you right on that matter.

There are swarms of minnows all round the lake in every part of it; there are thousands of crayfish, there are loaches and miller's thumbs in abundance; there are quantities of freshwater mussels. One third round the lake is rushes and weeds, where trout like to frequent for food, so I think you will say there is no lack of food, as we well know how they like minnows, loaches, crayfish, &c. But for all that, as you say, the trout are not well fed, nor do you often meet with them large; but a good deal of that is due to the poaching fraternity. There were two trout killed on the spawning beds above the lake four or five years ago: one weighed over 6 lb. and the other about 4 lb., and an old angler, a friend of mine, caught two at different times, 3 lb. each. I have frequently caught eels 4 lb. and over. Redeyes (rudd) and bream swarm in it. I was fishing with two parties a few years ago, and they killed between sixty and seventy pounds one afternoon with worm.—I am, &c.,

Askrigg, Yorks

JOHN SKIDMORE.

[We are glad to hear that the want of food can hardly be the cause of the leanness of the Semmer Water trout. The "proof of the pudding is in the eating," and why the trout should be so poor when such a quantity of their food exists, is a puzzle to us. Poaching will not make fish poor. By the way, we can advise anyone who fishes Semmer Water to be careful in wading up the right side, as the bottom is a regular bog; the left side is more rocky.—ED.]

THE LETTER AND PARCELS WORK OF THE CHRISTMAS WEEK.

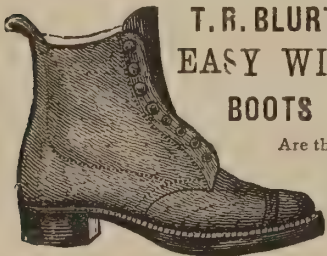
SIR,—The Postmaster-General wishes to make known throughout the Service his high appreciation of the energy and zeal displayed in successfully meeting the unprecedented pressure of Post Office business experienced throughout the Service during the last few days.—I am, &c.,

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Correspondents are requested to write on one side of the paper only, and give their real names and addresses, not necessarily as signatures to their letters, but as a guarantee of good faith. Unless this rule be adhered to, no notice will be taken of such communications.
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Irish Agency—Mr. T. E. Fitz-Patrick, 3, O'Meara Terrace, Clonliffe, Dublin.
American Office and Agency, Mr. De Witt C. Lent, 30, Park Place, New York.
N.B.—All Remittances must be sent and all Cheques and Money Orders must be made payable to Messrs. SAMPSON LOW, MARSTON, AND CO., the Proprietors.

The Fishing Gazette.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 12, 1884.

LONDON ANGLERS AND THE DEFENCE OF ANGLING RIGHTS IN NORFOLK.

IT is with very great pleasure we are able to state that the greater part of the amount which we referred to last week as being required to enable the Yarmouth Piscatorial Society to carry on their case against those who claim the sole right of fishing in Heigham Sounds has been obtained by Mr. Lark. Mr. Marston brought the matter before the members of THE PISCATORIAL SOCIETY, and introduced Mr. Lark to the meeting; and, after Dr. Brunton, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Murray, Mr. Lark, and some others had spoken on the subject, almost every member present subscribed to the Defence Fund, in fact, nearly half of the £31 10s. 6d. which Mr. Lark took back with him was subscribed by the members of the Piscatorial Society, as will be seen from the following list, which Mr. Lark thinks is correct:—

LIST OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

NAME.	£	s.	d.
Mr. Thos. Spreckley	5	5	0
The "Fishing Gazette"	5	5	0
Mr. Jardine	1	1	0

CONTRIBUTED BY THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS OF THE PISCATORIAL SOCIETY:—

	£	s.	d.
Mr. Sachs	1	1	0
Mr. Walker	0	16	0
Mr. Hatfield	0	10	6
Mr. Hooker	0	10	6
Mr. Jennings	0	10	6
Mr. Inderwick	0	10	6
Mr. Blamey	6	10	6
Mr. Huggett	0	10	0
Mr. Arter	0	10	0
Mr. Pattisson	0	10	0
Mr. Crumplen	0	10	0
Mr. Adlington	0	10	0
Dr. Brunton	0	10	0
Mr. Leman	0	10	0
Mr. Batt	0	10	0
Mr. Hill	0	10	0
Mr. Murray	0	10	0
Dr. Coates	0	10	0
Dr. Goodyer	0	10	0
Mr. Knetchley	0	10	0
Mr. Foreman	0	10	0
Mr. Harden	0	10	0
Mr. Blundell	0	10	0
Mr. Dashwood	0	10	0

The Gresham Society	12	19	6
Members of the Gresham Society	2	2	0
	2	18	0
	5	0	0

[Three or four of the Gresham members, as members of the Piscatorial Society, had subscribed at the meeting of that society.]

The Silver Trout Angling Society	1	0	0
Members of the Silver Trout Angling Society	1	0	0
	2	0	0

Total £31 10 6

[We shall be glad to correct any errors in this list.—ED.]

Mr. Lark was recommended by a member to send a notice to those

"Piscatorials" who were absent last Monday evening, to give them an opportunity of subscribing. We know several of them would have done so had they been present.

One gentleman, at the Gresham (who has very little faith in the generosity of the Associations), offered to give Mr. Lark £5 if London club anglers as a body would give 2d. per dozen to the fund. We have worked out this little sum, and, taking the number of club anglers at 5 000, this would give about 416 dozen, at 2d. a dozen = £3 9s. 4d. We appeal to the West Central Association to give £1 9s. 4d., the Central and the East Central to give each £1, and thus secure this £5 and add £8 9s. 4d. to the fund.—or as much more as they feel inclined. Surely, no difficulty of a red tape or any other nature can stand in the way of the London associations helping in preserving rights of fishing in Norfolk—especially now that the railway privileges extend to Yarmouth, as Mr. Murray pointed out at the Piscatorial Society.

Mr. Lark returns to Yarmouth with the good wishes of all he had the pleasure of being introduced to in the London angling world, and with funds which will enable his club to fight the battle they have engaged in in the interests of anglers generally. He has no reason to regret the advice we gave him last week to persevere, and we could promise he would not "go empty away."

P.S.—Since the above was in type, we have received two guineas from Mr. P. Geen, for the Defence Fund, and have sent the cheque on to Mr. Lark with Mr. Geen's promise to bring the matter again before the Association.

NORFOLK NOTES.

By G. CHRISTOPHER DAVIES.

(Author of "The Swan and Her Crew," "Norfolk Broads and Rivers," &c.)

I AM afraid my credit as a fisherman will greatly suffer when I confess that I only managed to get one day's fishing during the whole of 1883. The truth is, that as business engagements increase, I find it increasingly difficult to make time for recreation on the water, notwithstanding the necessity, on the score of health, of some such intervals of ease. Then my angling apprenticeship was served among the trout, and I have never been able to make myself quite happy among roach and bream. And so it came about that I transferred my affections to the more exciting pursuit of yacht sailing, and when I dare take my pleasure on Norfolk waters it is on board the fast-sailing "Swan," rather than in a fishing boat moored for hours in one spot. My interest in the sport of simple angling is, therefore, that of a spectator rather than a participator.

I have always, however, retained my fondness for pike fishing, but I rarely indulge in it for the simple reason that from October to March for some seasons past my nose has been kept uncommonly close to the grindstone. I make this personal explanation because many people seem to imagine that I am daily upon the Broads. The truth is, that I enjoy my brief holidays so intensely that it is a pleasure to me to write of them afterwards; and as the district of the Broads has been my only "playground" for some years, my name has become associated with them. I hope after this explanation that the readers of the FISHING GAZETTE will not consider me a fraud when I say that, at the request of the Editor, I propose to contribute from time to time "Notes" (practical rather than descriptive) on topics of local interest having at least some bearing upon the interests of anglers.

My first note shall be on the subject of Pike fishing in the Rivers. Many visitors here appear to think that they have only to cast their lines in anywhere to have good sport. There can be no greater mistake. Pike are abundant enough, but they are more so in some reaches than others, while in some reaches it would be quite useless to try for them. Now, the stranger cannot tell where the pike are, nor how they are affected by the tide or the height of the river, the nature of the bottom, and so on; and without the assistance of local knowledge he is likely to spend his time unprofitably.

Those who know where the pike are to be found can often do execution among them with live bait, but the most general method of fishing for them on the rivers is by trailing a bait behind the boat. I believe that on the Thames this is considered unworthy of a sportsman; but I cannot see that there is anything improper in it on such miles of river as we have.

On a winter's day you may row a dozen miles and not meet with another angler engaged in the same occupation. The great secret of success is not to row too fast. The majority of visitors whom I notice on the rivers in summer and autumn row much too fast. It seems to me that the pike here are so well fed that they will not trouble themselves to hurry after a bait that is travelling fast. The quiet, methodical way of the native trailer is a great contrast to the splashing, irregular course of many strangers. Some of the natives eke out their living by trailing for pike in the winter. One man is accustomed to have a spar

fixed across his boat, projecting about four feet on each side, and with a line passing through a ring on each end. The bight of the line he keeps in his hand as he rows, and on the two ends of the line are fixed his spoon baits. The professional trailers are generally alone, and their takes vary from two or three to a score. Unfortunately, the small ones are rarely put back, and the very large ones are too lazy to be caught by anything but live bait. The lure used in trailing is almost always the spoon, and I notice that the natives do not use a long line, but keep the spoon rather close to the boat and also to the surface. This kind of fishing is usually called spinning here, and not trailing. Spinning proper—that is, casting either from the bank or a boat and working the bait home—in the Thames or Nottingham style is not common, and trolling with a dead gorge is very rarely practised. Owing to the peculiar character of the navigable rivers, and the fact that the pike lie along the sides lurking in the fringe of weeds, trailing seems the mode of fishing most suitable for the lower reaches of Norfolk rivers. Of course you must get someone to row for you, but a man will row all day for a crown and his “grub.” A small electric launch would be just the thing for trailing, and I hope to have one before very long.

In the upper and clearer reaches I have found the eel-tail bait to be most deadly in my hands. It is a trouble to prepare, but one will last all day. I have never seen anyone else using it in Norfolk.

I hope to enlarge further on this subject in my next “Note.”

G. C. D.

SEWAGE IN THE RIVER LEA.—A GOVERNMENT INQUIRY AT LAST.

WE are very glad to see, from the *Tottenham Weekly Herald*, that a Government inquiry was opened on the 3rd inst., at the offices of the Tottenham Local Board, and we heartily congratulate the Lea Conservancy Board on the success which has at last rewarded their persistent efforts to get an inquiry held. It is also satisfactory to us to know that copies of the FISHING GAZETTE were put in in evidence containing accounts of the very abominable manner in which the Tottenham Local Board turns the sewage of that town into the Lea, the great destruction of fish life caused by it in October last, and the constant danger to human life and probable disease caused by use of the foetid stream, and the poisonous gases it sets free. It is high time, now that science can not only render sewage innocuous but also valuable, that this wanton pollution of our streams should be put an end to, and there can be no doubt this will be the result in the present case.

MR. KELSON'S ARTICLES ON SALMON FISHING.

DEAR SIR,—I regret to inform you that, as an accident has happened to the first illustration in transmission, my article on the Switch Cast cannot appear this week. I return home on Tuesday next.—I am, &c.,

GEO. M. KELSON.

The Editor, FISHING GAZETTE.

[We wished to insert the article this week, and the cut next; but Mr. Kelson says they must go together to be of any use.—ED.]

THE NATIONAL FISH CULTURE ASSOCIATION.

AT a meeting of the Council of the above Association, on Thursday last, Mr. R. B. Marston in the chair, it was decided to accept the recommendations of the sub-committee appointed to report on a suggestion made by Mr. Edward Birbeck, M.P., and to carry out piscicultural experiments in a hatching house to be erected for the purpose at South Kensington. This hatchery will undoubtedly form a great attraction to visitors to the forthcoming Health Exhibition, and prove how easily valuable table fish can be cultivated. Among those present at the meeting were Dr. Brunton, W. Oldham Chambers, Esq., H. Ffennell Esq., P. Geen, Esq., A. Jardine, Esq., J. L. Sayer, Esq., Major Seddon, W. Senior, Esq., E. B. Sharpe, Esq.

STARTING THE YEAR WELL.

MR. ALFRED JARDINE, on the first two days of the year, fishing some West of England pike water, caught with gut paternoster twenty-five fish, the best 10 lb. Fishing last

Friday and Saturday, in one of the home counties with a companion, they caught fifty-eight pike, weighing 320 lb. Mr. J's three best pike weighed 12 lb., 15 lb. and 19½ lb., and all taken on gut paternoster. On none of these days was spinning or snap fishing of any use, owing to the condition of the water. In addition to the above, they captured a brace of perch weighing 4 lb. 14 oz.

ANGLING SLANG, &c.

WILL those of our readers who also write for us kindly note that there is evidence of a great want of originality—to say the least of it, in the continued use of such terms as—

“Spotted beauty”	instead of Trout
“Finny tribe”	” ” Fish
“Finny prize”	” ” Fish
“Rodster”	” ” Angler.

and other expressions of a similar nature which do not occur to us at the moment, but which, when seen in print, are the cause of the use of worse language still on the part of most readers, and a frequent use of our waste-paper basket.

NOTICES OF BOOKS, &c.

THE FISHERIES OF THE WORLD.*

WE have previously noticed this excellent “Illustrated and Descriptive Record of the International Fisheries Exhibition,” and have much pleasure in again calling attention to it. When complete—eight monthly parts have already appeared—it will form a worthy memorial of the great Exhibition. The very numerous and beautiful illustrations bring back again clearly the many and varied features of the various courts, and depict scenes of all kinds connected with fish and fishing of all kinds. Through the courtesy of the publishers we are able to give our readers this week specimens of the illustrations—fourteen in number, and several of them full-page size—in Part 6. These represent a “Group of Thames Fish” and “Varieties of Salmon and Trout.” Better woodcuts of fish we have not seen for a long time—in fact, a more admirably life-like picture of a Thames trout than that in the group of Thames fish we have never seen—Mr. Hatfield will say it is a “portrait from life” of his fine fish exhibited at the Westminster Aquarium! A description of “Thames Angling,” with records of takes of big trout, and a view of “Fishing at a Weir on the Thames,” are also included in this number. The letterpress descriptions are very pleasantly and popularly written; but perhaps an account of the titles of some of the articles will give our readers the best idea of the nature of the work, which cannot fail to prove a never-failing source of interest, especially to all who visited the Exhibition. “The Aquarium at the Fisheries Exhibition,” with illustration; “The Emotions of Fish,” with illustration; “Tickling Trout”; “Fish Diseases—the Salt-water Cure”; “Crustaceans and Molluscs,” illustrated; “The United States Court at the Fisheries Exhibition,” illustrated; “Oysters and Oyster Culture,” fully illustrated; “Mussel Farming,” illustrated; “American Salmon Hatching Apparatus,” illustrated; “Pisciculture in the United States,” illustrated; an illustration of “Trout-fishing,” after J. Pettie, R.A.; “On the Beach, Great Yarmouth,” illustrated; “Odd Fish,” illustrated; “Trawling,” illustrated; “Angling in Ancient Days,” illustrated; “The True Angler” (the proprietor of a stream near Lucca once described to the writer of this article very feelingly “how some Englishmen had bewitched his fish out of the water with imitations of dead flies, which articles not being illegal, he could have no remedy”); “Fish Poisons”; “The Sardine Fishery,” illustrated; “Sacred Fish”; “Line-fishing for Cod,” illustrated; “Attractions of Deep Human Interest in the British Section,” with illustration of “Grace Darling’s Boat”; “Relics of the Eira Expedition,” &c.

The above include only about half of the illustrated articles which have already appeared in this publication, and are taken at hazard. Certainly this is one of the most interesting and valuable of the many illustrated popular works which Messrs. Cassell have published, and most completely fulfils the description given of it in the prospectus—viz., that it should “form not only an introduction and descriptive guide to the various objects to be found in the Fisheries Exhibition, but place before the reader, in a series of pleasant chapters full of anecdote as well as valuable facts, all that he can desire to know about the fisheries and fishing processes, the men who are engaged in them, the fishing-boats used, the various kinds of nets and tackle employed, the daily life of the fisherman in its various vicissitudes, &c., from the ice-bound coasts of Greenland and the promontories of Labrador in the north, to the tropical seas of the Indies, and thence to the Southern Ocean.”

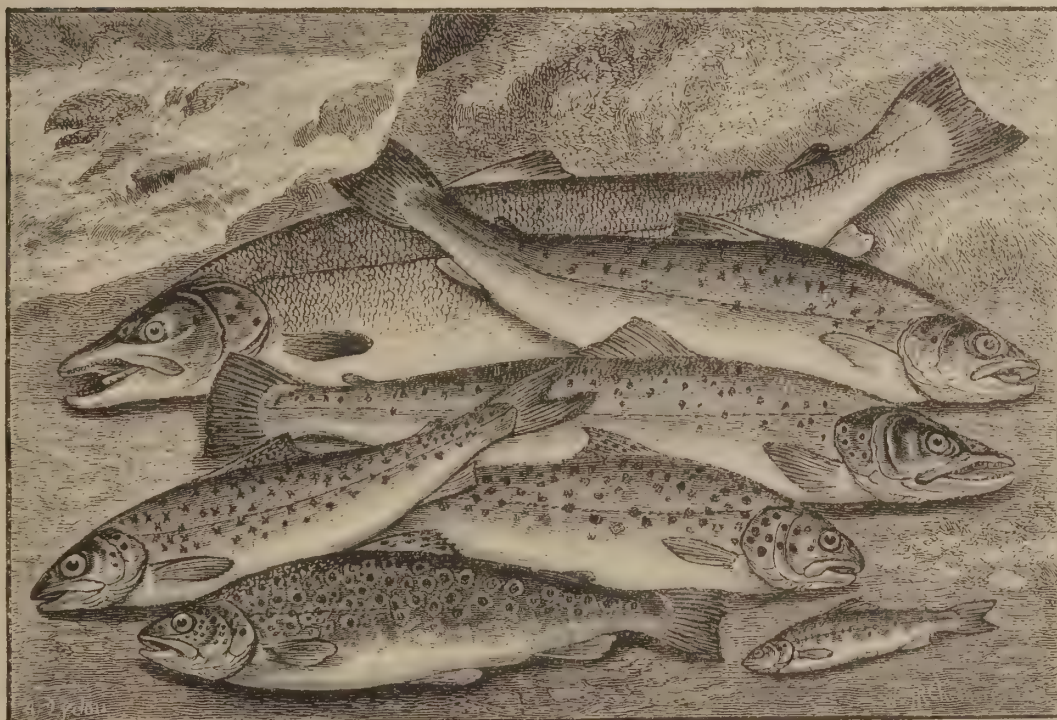
* “The Fisheries of the World”; being an Illustrated and Descriptive Record of the International Fisheries Exhibition. Cassell and Co., Limited, London, Paris, and New York. Published in monthly parts at 7d.

FROM "THE FISHERIES OF THE WORLD."



GROUP OF THAMES FISH.

1, Perch; 2, Chub; 3, Pike; 4, Barbel; 5, Eel; 6, Trout; 7, Gudgeon.



VARIETIES OF SALMON AND TROUT.

1, Salmon; 2, Salmon Trout; 3, Loch Leven Trout; 4, Bull Trout; 5, Gillaroo Trout; 6, Common Trout;
7, Samlet, or Parr.

CLUB REPORTS.

AMICABLE BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

Mr. Taylor, jack; Mr. Wicks, roach; Mr. Dwelley, roach and dace. The members will fish from January 6th to March 9th, for a silver watch and 15s. cash for the 1st and 2nd heaviest weight of roach; also 10s. 6d. for the heaviest one day's take between the same dates. They will fish a pegged-down match, at Ware, on February 10th, for eight prizes.—J. WORLEDGE.

ANCHOR AND HOPE ANGLING SOCIETY.

Several of our members have been out lately, but met with rather indifferent sport. One of our members, Mr. Somers, sen., succeeded in capturing a very handsome bleak in the Thames, $3\frac{1}{2}$ oz., which has been sent to Mr. Miller, East Street, Walworth, to be preserved.—D. DAVIS, sec.

CITY OF LONDON ANGLING SOCIETY.

On the 30th ult., Mr. Gentry weighed in roach from Kingston, and Mr. Castell roach from the Stort, 2 lb. 8 oz. On January 6, Mr. Chambers, roach from Amberley, over 3 lb., and Mr. Gentry, one roach from St. Margaret's, $1\frac{1}{2}$ oz.—CAS.

CROWN PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

The next return visit of angling clubs on the West Central Association will take place next Monday, January 14th, at our headquarters, the Crown Tavern, Clerkenwell Green, when we hope to have the company of as many brother anglers and friends as can favour us with their kind support. Chair taken at 8.30 sharp by Mr. Willcockson, faced by Mr. Burwash. Pianist, Mr. George Sibley.—W. H. B., sec.

DALSTON ANGLING SOCIETY.

On the 6th inst. several members had a very good show of roach and chub. On January 28 a smoking concert will take place at the above society for the benefit of the Anglers' Benevolent Society, when anglers and their friends are cordially invited. Chair taken at 9 o'clock punctually.—S. MALLEY, sec.

GOLDEN BARBEL ANGLING SOCIETY.

On the 6th there was a very nice show of fish on the table at this society. Mr. Henrie led the way with 15 lb. 6 oz. of roach, dace, and chub, the largest chub turning the scale at $2\frac{1}{4}$ lb. Mr. J. Jones came next with 7 lb. of roach and dace. Messrs. Green, Allen, Stoner, Stanton, Bigsby, and Crow also had fish. At the meeting held on the 8th, it was decided that a "friendly pool" take place on the 27th, in that portion of the Lea that runs between the railway bridge below Rye House and the Magna Water, this side of St. Margaret's. Competitors to start by the first train in the morning from Liverpool Street. The following gentlemen gave prizes for this occasion, to be used at the discretion of the committee:—Messrs. Green, Bigsby, J. Roach, W. Roach, Stoner, Crow, Allen, J. Jones, Harper, Henrie, G. Dodd, and a friend. The prizes consisted of fish bags, tobacco, bottles of spirits, books, tackle, and books. Among the latter was a copy of Keats's poems and a couple of copies of that elegant and handy book on the roach, by Greville Ffennell—a book that all roach fishermen ought to possess. From what I have read of it, it contains some very useful information to "old as well as young 'roachers.'"—P. XIE.

GOOD INTENT ANGLING SOCIETY.

There was a good show of fish at the club on the 6th inst. Mr. H. Brooker showed 20 lb. of good roach from the Lea; also Mr. J. Bell, 10 lb. of good fish; Mr. Murphy, roach; Mr. Gadbury, jack; Mr. W. Wheeler, jack; Mr. Maybury, roach. Tuesday 8th, being quarterly night, there was a good attendance of members, and several important matters were decided. Two propositions of candidates were entered on the book; the same stand over for a fortnight. The members fish for twelve prizes at the Rye House on the 27th inst. Roam of water; all start by one train; all fish to weigh according to our rules. I am glad to state Mr. Lassiter is making progress towards recovery from his sad accident.—R. MURPHY.

GREAT NORTHERN BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

The following members weighed in roach from Bourne End and Shiplake: Messrs. J. Watling, 7 lb. 7 oz.; J. Dingley, 1 lb. 13 oz.; Martinella, 1 lb. 10 oz.; C. Watling, 3 lb. 5 oz.; G. Warren, jack, 2 lb. 4 oz.; G. Watling, 3 lb. 6 oz.; Theobald, 3 lb. 9 oz.; J. Fitch, 10 oz.; W. Parkin, 13 oz. The next Eastern District visit will be paid to this society on Wednesday, Jan. 16th.—J. FITCH, s.c.

GRESHAM ANGLING SOCIETY.

The ordinary weekly meeting of this society was held at the Masons' Hall Tavern, on Tuesday evening, Dr. Defriez in the chair. The minutes were read and confirmed. A notice was received from the Central Association of London Angling Clubs that the next delegate meeting will take place on Friday, the 11th inst. Some time since Mr. Frost presented the society with a very interesting collection of skins; and Mr. Norman having also given a case, the hon. curator (Captain Alfred) has arranged them in a most effective manner. The thanks of the meeting were given to each of these gentlemen. Mr. Crumplen, in introducing Mr. Lark, of the Great Yarmouth Piscatorial Society, explained that the object of his (Mr. Lark's) visit to London was to make an appeal to the various London angling societies for assistance to enable them to prosecute an appeal in the Queen's Bench Division against a conviction of the local magistrates for fishing the Heigham Sounds. The Great Yarmouth Piscatorial Society had taken the matter up in a very liberal spirit. The cause they were fighting was a matter of great interest to London anglers, many of whom had availed themselves of these beautiful waters to practise the sport they all loved so well; indeed, the owners did not make so much an objection to the Yarmouth fishermen as to the Londoners. He was sorry the London Angling Societies had not better responded to the appeal. The Yarmouth societies had raised about £60. He was glad to say that at the Piscatorial Society last evening nearly £14 was collected, and he felt sure that the Gresham would give a helping hand. Mr. Lark expressed the pleasure it gave him to be present at the meeting, although he regretted that his first appearance should be on a begging mission. He pointed out that the right of fishing Heigham Sounds would never have been interfered with, but for the reason that the Yarmouth Society had allowed London anglers the privilege of fishing for a nominal sum. "The riparian owners objected to Londoners, and we took their part. After consulting our solicitor, it was agreed that we should have a test case tried. This

was done; the owners contended that the water as well as the land belonged to them; the magistrates took this view, and we consented to a small fine with the intention of appealing. We acted in this manner hoping for assistance from the London Angling Societies, but in this we were not successful. It was therefore agreed that I should come to London to visit the various societies, and I am pleased to say that so far my visit has been successful. Our counsel is of opinion that we are certain of success; indeed, it is only on that assurance that I have undertaken the present expedition." Mr. Benningfield thought that those who benefited by these waters should bear the expense of this prosecution. It seemed very hard that whilst our own River Protection Society was languishing for want of funds we should pay for the enjoyment of others so far away. Mr. Godwin pointed out that this was a question of public right, affecting the whole of the anglers in the country. Riparian owners were waking up to the fact that water is a very valuable possession, often worth more than their land; and if this case were allowed to go against us, what was now occurring with Heigham Sounds might be looked for in very many other quarters. We could not, therefore, afford to allow our friends to submit to the magistrates' decision, but should, if necessary, help them even to the Court of Appeal. The committee had voted a sum of £2 2s. which he hoped would be added to in the course of the evening. In conclusion, Mr. Godwin expressed his belief that what had taken place to night and also at the Piscatorial Society last evening, would have a very beneficial effect. The Chairman announced that the sum voted by the committee had been augmented to £5 2s. 6d., which he had great pleasure in handing to Mr. Lark. He fully endorsed all that had fallen from the previous speakers as to the importance of matters to anglers in general. Mr. Lark thanked the society for its liberality, assuring them that the funds would be most carefully applied. It was resolved that the delegates to the Central Association should bring the matter forward at the earliest opportunity. Mr. Young weighed in a very fine jack, caught in the Society's new water, and scaling 10 lb. 1 oz. The toast of the visitors and successful anglers having been proposed and responded to, a vote of thanks to Dr. Defriez for his services in the chair, brought the business part of the evening to a close. The usual musical selections followed. Mr. Crumplen has promised to give at the next meeting some explanations of the "Recent Atmospheric Appearances."

HAMMERSMITH UNITED ANGLING SOCIETY.

Mr. P. Geen weighed in roach and perch from Eynsham on January 5. On the 6th, Mr. Black weighed in dace weighing 12 lb $12\frac{1}{2}$ oz., and two roach of $8\frac{1}{2}$ oz. from Twickenham; Mr. Burbidge weighed in eighteen roach, 4 lb. $8\frac{1}{2}$ oz., two dace, 5 oz., from Shiplake.—KNIGHT OF THE ROD.

HEARTS OF OAK ANGLING SOCIETY.

The members of the above society fished the Forty Guinea water on the 6th inst. for a series of prizes, four of which were taken, Mr. R. Ford being first with 3 lb. $6\frac{1}{2}$ oz. roach; Mr. Pleydell, sen., Mr. Perham, and Mr. Layton taking the remainder respectively; Mr. Pleydell, jun., also had a nice show of fish.—C. J. MILLIE.

HOXTON BROTHERS ANGLING SOCIETY.

Very few members out on Sunday last. Messrs. J. Osborne, and A. Hattermore had good shows of roach from the Rye House, 12 lb. and 10 lb. H. Da Costa had roach from St. Margaret's, one scaling just on 1 lb. 8 oz.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

LINCOLN ANGLING SOCIETY.

Our members went out on the 6th inst., rather few in number, but brought in a very pretty show of roach; on the 9th they also brought home a very nice show of roach.—F. W. TODD, sec. pro tem.

METROPOLITAN ANGLING SOCIETY.

Mr. Biscoe, roach, 2 lb $6\frac{1}{2}$ oz.; Mr. James Newton, roach, 2 lb. $4\frac{1}{2}$ oz.; Mr. Duckworth, roach, 2 lb. 12 oz.; Mr. Freethy, one jack, 3 lb. 13 oz.; Mr. Gower, jun., jack, 4 lb. 6 oz.; Mr. George Jefferys, jack, 3 lb. 14 oz.; Mr. Gower, sen., jack, 1 lb $1\frac{1}{2}$ oz.—W. MYALL, sec.

MORTLAKE PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

A new society of the lovers of the finny tribe was, under very promising auspices, opened at Mortlake on Tuesday evening, January 8, in the magnificent room at the Queen's Head Hotel, Mortlake, when a strong muster of the manipulators of the rod and line attended; and judging from the attendance and promises made, it bids fair to become a very successful enterprise. Meeting nights every Tuesday evening at 8 p.m. for the enrolment of members and general business.—G. G.

[Yes; shall be glad to have report when you have anything of interest to send.—ED.]

NEW WALTON AND COTTON ANGLING SOCIETY.

Since our last report there has been some very good shows of fish. On Dec. 23rd, Mr. Stocker, roach; on Dec. 30th, Mr. Stocker, roach, 12 lb. 12 oz.; making a very satisfactory ending for the year 1883. On Jan. 6th, Mr. Stocker, roach; 16 lb. $8\frac{1}{2}$ oz. On the same date Mr. Stringer, roach, 3 lb $6\frac{1}{2}$ oz.; on Jan. 8th, Mr. Wyeth, roach, from the Lea; and on Jan. 9th, Mr. Cole had a very handsomely-marked jack, from private water. The annual supper will take place in the society's room on Jan. 23rd.—W. T. HAWKINS, hon. sec.

NORTH-WESTERN ANGLING SOCIETY.

Plenty of members out on the 6th, and the following members brought in a nice tray of fish. W. Roxbee, roach, dace, and perch; H. Underwood, roach; W. Plumpton, sen., jack. I am happy to report that one of the oldest members of this club, who met with a serious accident some time since, has quite recovered. A smoking concert will take place on Thursday, the 24th inst., when I hope the members and friends of the neighbouring angling clubs will give us a bumper.—W. HILLIER, sec.

PHOENIX ANGLING SOCIETY.

The members of the above society who ventured out on the 6th inst. met with very good sport. Mr. Keen was well up with a very handsome show of fish from the Thames, consisting of roach, dace, gudgeon, and perch, total, 10 lb. $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. Mr. Slater was not quite so successful as usual. Having made up his mind for a good day's perch fishing, he was advised to go to Ware, and the result was eight perch (seven fish he returned to the water again), returning not very well pleased, but hopes they will run larger next time. Mr. Pritchard, dace from the Thames; Mr. Grist, a very pretty jack from the Welsh Harp, 3 lb. 2 oz., in nice condition; Mr. Clark, some very nice roach from the Lea.

There was a good muster of members on the 8th inst., which Mr. Pritchard, the Chairman, was very pleased to see, which put him in mind of old times once again.—J. G.

QUEEN'S ANGLING SOCIETY.

Our members were out on the 6th, but met with but little sport. Mr. Bedford, 2 lb. of roach; Mr. Barrett, 1 lb. of dace; Mr. F. Barrett, 1 lb. of dace; Mr. Corney, one roach, 8 oz.; Mr. A. Chick, one roach, 6 oz.; Mr. Pease had one good roach, weighing 1 lb. 6½ oz.—J. WALFORD.

RODNEY PISCATORIALS.

We had a nice show of fish here on the 6th from the Thames. Mr. W. March had about 5 lb. of roach and dace. Messrs. Grant and Son had roach and dace. Mr. Arnsby, from Tottenham, had roach and dace. Mr. Diggins had a jack from the same place; this gentleman begs to inform all concerned that he is not in the habit of netting fish, as appeared in the last report of this Society. In my report, Mr. Editor, I wrote, "Mr. Diggins succeeded in 'getting' 8 nice carp and tench, and not that he succeeded in 'netting' 8 nice carp and tench." At the meeting held on the 9th it was settled that we all go to Shepperton on the 20th, and fish between the lock and Chertsey bridge for the following prizes:—a piece of furniture, value £2 2s., given by Mr. T. Hughes; 10s. 6d. by Mr. A. A. Liversage; two prizes by the Society; and two given by Messrs. Arnsby and Diggins.—"PIXIE."

SOCIABLE BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

On the 6th inst. Mr. G. Hall had roach from the Lea; Mr. W. Morris also had roach.—INKY.

SOUTH-EASTERN ANGLING SOCIETY.

Our Messrs. Smith and son were out at Staines on the 6th inst., and had a fine display of jack, perch, roach and dace. Other members were out also, but not quite so fortunate. We had a very good meeting to-night (January 9th); some very important propositions brought forward and carried. It will be well for our few delinquent members to take warning by their last notice, sent them during the past week, as, if they do not attend, the rules will be most strictly carried out. Having entered into a new year, at the same time a new programme will be carried out as to business generally. After a good amount of business had been got through, the rest of the evening was spent in harmony, of which there was an abundance. Meeting ended at 11.30 p.m.—THOS. H. H. WESTON, sec.

STANLEY ANGLERS' SOCIETY.

At our ordinary meeting on Wednesday evening last, at which we had a very fair attendance of members, after the business had been transacted, &c., it was suggested to devote an hour to harmony and chat, piscatorial and otherwise, songs being most agreeably sung by Messrs. Parsons and Jarvis; also by Mr. Crumplem, who kindly favoured us with his company. Mr. T. G. Glover proposed "The memory of departed members, coupled with the name of our late president, Mr. Boys." The health of "The Visitors" was received with enthusiasm, coupled with the name of Mr. Crumplem, who, in his reply, stated (among other things) that he was glad to be able to compliment the Stanley Anglers upon the fact that they were the first of the London clubs to take active measures to support the action of the Great Yarmouth Piscatorial Society—an example which, he was proud to say, was being ably seconded by many others, notably the Gresham and Piscatorial. The health of "The Host and Hostess," Mr. and Mrs. Jarvis, was next proposed, and this toast concluded the evening's proceedings.—G. E. W.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ANGLING SOCIETY.

Several of our members were out on Saturday, December 20th. Mr. E. Cocker (our esteemed vice) showing the best tray, made up of various kinds of fish, including pike, chub (the largest 2 lb.), roach, and dace; Mr. J. E. Hassall, a brace of nice jack; and Mr. R. Wallace, chub, the largest 3 lbs. a splendid fish. Mr. H. Evans, whilst chub fishing the same day, hooked and landed five trout, all in fine condition, and were carefully returned to the water again. The readers of the GAZETTE down here are anxiously awaiting the "Trent Otter's" promised account of his visit to Llanymynech.—J. HOLLINS, hon. sec.

SURREY PISCATORIALS.

The members of this society had a roving commission on the 9th, for two prizes given by Messrs. Duck and Sapsworth. Mr. Boalch came first with roach and dace from Richmond. Mr. Beckett came second with roach and dace from the same place, several other gentlemen also had fish. A friendly match will take place some time during February, between two well-known members of this society for £2 a side, both to fish from the bank on one occasion, and both to fish from the same punt on another, all fish to weigh, bar jack, and no live bait to be used, excepting worms and gentles. The stakes are down.—PIXIE.

THE DUKE OF NORFOLK ANGLING SOCIETY.

A few members of the above have started the new year very well. Mr. Baxter having roach and perch from the Colne and our new member, Mr. Kirk, commencing well with a fine take from the Welsh Harp, which has gone to Cooper to be put up. Our presentation of prizes takes place on Wednesday, Jan. 23rd inst., when any brothers of the rod will be made most welcome.—J. AVON, sec.

THE PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

The half-yearly (or perhaps more properly designated, the annual) meeting for the election of officers and other general business, took place at Ashley's Hotel, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, on Monday evening last, the chair being worthily occupied by Mr. Thomas Huggett. There were also present Messrs. T. Gillott, James Pattison, W. H. Brougham, T. R. Sachs, H. Gray, R. B. Marston, N. F. Harrisson, H. J. Inderwick, R. S. Fennings, M. H. Blamey, D. Goodyer, Thomas Crumplem, F. C. Hatfield, P. Dashwood, B. Perelli-Rocco, A. G. Hammack, Dr. Brunton, Dr. Coates, R. E. Booker, J. C. Murray, A. Arter, Edward Foreman, Walker Clegg, R. C. Blundell, F. H. Lemann, J. A. Nicholay, A. Attwell, E. A. Sachs, J. Hill, H. B. Brown, W. B. Adlington, Batt, Ketchley, &c. The visitors were Messrs. J. Lark (hon. sec. Yarmouth Piscatorial Society), G. Murray, and H. Harden. The financial report for the half year was very satisfactory, the receipts, including a balance of £2 2s. 8d., were £49 18s. 2d., and after payment of expenses the sum of £4 9s. 5d. remained. The number of members were 120. The reserve fund amounted to £101 10s. 5d. The sum of £20 was voted as an honorarium to the honorary secretary after some compli-

mentary remarks from the Chairman. Mr. F. G. Pearce, having resigned the treasurership, was unanimously elected as honorary president, and it was determined at the next half-yearly meeting to make him president as the father of the society. Mr. R. S. Fennings was most cordially chosen as his successor as treasurer. Mr. Gray was re-elected librarian, as were also Messrs. T. Gillott and James Pattison as auditors. Mr. James Lander who tendered his resignation as honorary secretary, through ill-health, was persuaded to keep the office for another year on condition that some one would be found to succeed him. Votes of thanks were given to the officers of the past year; £14 was voted as club prizes. It was most enthusiastically resolved to hold the annual dinner at the Holborn Restaurant, and that Sir H. W. Peek, Bart., M.P., be invited to preside. Mr. R. S. Fennings consented to occupy the vice-chair. The question of a change in the night of meeting was deferred. The members present subscribed the handsome sum of £13 3s. 6d. to the Yarmouth Piscatorial Society Appeal Fund, after some remarks in support of it from Messrs. R. B. Marston, James Lark, Dr. Brunton, F. O. Hatfield, and others.

UNITED BROTHERS, DEPTFORD.

I hope Mr. Tyler will excuse my not responding to his kind invite for the 10th in person, important business having to be attended to at the other end of the town. Hope the return was satisfactory.—PIXIE.

UNITED LONDON FISHERIES SOCIETY.

The monthly meeting of the Executive Committee will take place on Monday evening next, January 14th, at 9 o'clock.—J. C. MURRAY, chairman. R. GHURNEY, sec.

WALWORTH WALTONIANS.

The members of this society brought very little fish to the front on the 6th, the day appointed for the competition of Mr. Taylor's Smoking Companion and Mr. Delehaye's hair brushes; the consequence being those things will be competed for the 24th, together with a cash prize of a guinea given by Mr. J. Bedford, and a cash prize of 10s. 6d., given by Mr. H. Quodling.—PIXIE.

WESTBOURNE PARK PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

The annual dinner of the above society will take place at the Pelican Hotel, All Saint's Road, W., on Tuesday, Jan. 22 at 7.30 p.m. for 8 p.m. sharp. Members, who did not attend the general meeting on the 8th inst., desirous of being present, should send their names at once to the secretary. The prizes won during 1883 will be presented on the above occasion.—H. T.

TROUT AND SALMON IN PERSIA.—We are indebted to Dr. Walter De F. Day of this New York, for the following interesting extract from a private letter to him written by Hon. S. G. W. Benjamin, the American Minister at the Court of the Shah:—"I wish you had been here to catch trout with me last summer in the valley of the Lar. You didn't think I could find trout in this Pagan clime. No more did I; but it is a great country for boasting a scarcity of water and an abundance of trout. As trout need water to live in, and to be caught in, I can only explain this anomaly by saying that, although there is but little water, it is better supplied with fish to the square inch than any ten brooks in New York combined. To reach these trout we climbed at midnight over a ridge 13,000 ft. high, that hour being chosen to avoid the heat. We ascended into a valley 11,000 feet above the sea, and dwelt in tents several days in the presence of Mt. Demavend, which at the end of the valley soared like a vast snow-clad pyramid 9,000 ft. higher. Through this desolate but very magnificent valley runs the river Lar, and there we caught strings of trout averaging half a pound in weight, which were in no wise inferior to the best trout I ever ate in America. The markets of Teheran are supplied with trout and salmon; the latter brought from the other side of the mountains and are good, though not quite equal to ours."—*American Angler*.

THE SHIPWRECKED FISHERMEN AND MARINERS' ROYAL BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.—At the last periodical meeting of the Committee of Management of this National Institution, held at its Central Office, Hibernia Chambers, London Bridge, on November 30th, Captain the Hon. Francis Maude, R.N., in the chair, it was formally announced that Vice-Admiral His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, K.G., &c., had been graciously pleased to accept the office of President of the Society, in the room of His Grace the late Duke of Marlborough, K.G. Also, the Right Hon. Lord Ashley (late R.N.) had undertaken the duties of deputy chairman of the Committee of Management and Chairman of the Finance Committee, in succession to the late Captain Vincent Budd. It was further announced that the Annual General Meeting of the Society, specially postponed in consequence of the lamented decease of His Grace the late President, would, by permission, take place at Fishmongers' Hall, London Bridge, on Monday, December 17th, at 3 p.m., when, in the unavoidable absence of His Royal Highness the President, appointed to the command of the Channel Squadron, Admiral Sir Thomas Datin, Prime Warden of the Worshipful Company of Fishmongers, had kindly consented to take the chair. Amongst other matters of interest, it was likewise recorded that a Gold Medal, with Diploma of Honour, had been awarded to the Society at the recent Great International Fisheries' Exhibition, in recognition of the widespread benefits extended to the fishing and maritime classes generally, through the Society's benevolent operations since its first formation in the year 1839, during which period upwards of 338,000 fishermen and mariners, with their distressed dependents, had been charitably succoured.

MAN that is married to woman is of many days and full of trouble. In the morning he draws his salary, and in the evening behold it is gone. It is a tale that is told; it vanisheth and no one knows whither it goeth. He riseth up clothed in the chilly garments of the night and seeketh the somnambulant paregoric wherewith to soothe the chilly bowels of his infant posterity. He becometh as a horse or ox and draweth the chariot of his offspring. He spendeth his shekels in the purchase of fine linen to cover the bosom of his family, yet himself is seen in the gates of the city with one suspender. Yea, he is altogether wretched.—*Bay City Tribune*.

GEORGE JAMES EATON, of Starkholmes, Matlock-Bath, Derbyshire, respectfully invited Noblemen and Gentlemen to try his standard FLIES for the present season. No flies sent or made up but what he himself has proved sure killers. A trial is all that is required from gentlemen who can fish, to prove whether they may be genuine or not. Patronised by some of the best fishermen of the day. All flies dressed on the best Kendal books! Prices: Point Flies, 2s. 6d. per Dozen; Dropper Flies, 2s. per Dozen. Orders punctually attended to.—(ADVT.)

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TO OUR RIVER REPORTERS.

WE find that we have not received reports from several of those who had arranged to send them. Unless they are sent, we shall have to conclude other arrangements.

RIVER REPORTS.

TIME OF HIGH WATER IN THE THAMES,
FOR SATURDAY, JANUARY 12.

	Morning.	Afternoon.
London Bridge 1.14 1.41		
Putney 2.4 2.31		
Kew 2.54 3.21		
Richmond 3.14 3.41		

THE LOWER THAMES.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The water is now in good condition. Anglers are very scarce. Fish are reported to be very plentiful, and the fishermen have no employment. The barbel are said to be in great form at Teddington. The fishermen are preserving silence as to the quantity they have taken, but the little bird whispers something like twenty, some of them 9 lb. and 10 lb. each. Teddington has always been a difficult place to ascertain angling intelligence, and why it should be kept from the public is what no one can understand. There has been a good quantity of Jack taken in bank fishing at Walton. The angling season is drawing to a close, and anglers should put in an appearance.

Richmond.

Christopher Brown, in two days, 23 lb. of roach and dace. Henry Wheeler, in one day, 10 lb. Job Brain, in three days, 28 lb. of dace. Henry Mansell, in two days, twelve dozen of dace.

BANK ANGLING.—The following fish have been registered at the Jolly Anglers.—Mr. Walkden, and two friends, 8 lb. of dace. Mr. Edwards, four dozen. Mr. Skelton, two and a half dozen. Mr. Weber, two dozen. Mr. Grey, 5 lb. Mr. Pearce, one and a half dozen. Mr. Stonebridge, 2½ lb. Mr. Turner, 2 lb.; and Mr. Branch, jun., one and a half dozen.

COMPETITION.—INDEPENDENT JOVIAL ANGLERS.—There has been an angling match amongst the members of this new club. The first prize, consisting of a fishing rod and winch, of the value of one guinea, given by Mr. Hugh Marston, was won by Mr. S. Keep; the second prize, of a timepiece, presented by Mr. Henry Stile, of the Waterman's Arms, was a dead heat, and a third prize, consisting of a book of fishing tackle, is to be decided on the next meeting night.

Twickenham.

John Spong, during the week, thirty-dozen of roach and dace; Pert Hamerton, in one day with Mr. Williams, about eight dozen of dace, and during the remainder of the week 200 dace; Mr. Beard, with George Chamberlain, in a week's fishing, have taken 480 dace; George Coxen, in two days, twelve dozen of dace.

Teddington.

Benjamin Stevens, in three days, twenty-one dozen of dace and a barbel of 6 lb. Joseph Baldwin, in the same time, a similar quantity. Charles Baldwin, eighteen dozen. Some fine barbel, up to 10 lb. each, have been taken at the Weir.

LAMPERN FISHERY.—Very few are now being taken, in consequence of the low state of the river. There was one consignment of two thousand despatched at the end of last week.

Kingston.

John Johnson, sen., in one day, five dozen of dace.

BANK ANGLING.—There has been an improved character of sport amongst the roach, dace, and perch during the week at Kingston, Surbiton, Thames Ditton, East Moulsey, and Sunbury.

East Moulsey.

John Smith, in one day, three jack, the largest 5 lb., and a perch of 1 lb.

Sunbury.

Messrs. E. Clarke and Sons, in three days, twenty-four dozen of roach and dace, some of the roach weighing 1 lb. each, and seven perch. The report adds, "All the fishermen complain, all they want is plenty of customers to come; there are plenty of fish, if the anglers will only come and catch them."

Walton.

Mr. Alexander in one day with George Hone one jack of 9 lb., and another of 3 lb. Thirteen jack have been taken from the banks, the largest 5 lb.

Shepperton.

W. Rogerson in one day a jack of 2½ lb., two brace of perch, and eighteen roach; and Mr. Brimmer with F. Purdue a jack of 5 lb.

Docket Point.

James Haslett and his son have been getting some fine roach, and the latter has also taken a fine chub of 6 lb. and a barbel. Haslett adds, "Any anglers who like legering for barbel and bream, I could give them some good sport." Docket Point is just above Shepperton Lock.

Have not been out since my last report, though the water has been very low this fortnight past, and first-rate for ledgering; no one down to try. I had one day on the 6th inst.; we went for bream and barbel, but the water rose fast and came down very thick and put us out, though we got a few fine roach. We went for jack, but no good. My son, J. Haslett, was more successful lower down, besides some fine roach, barbel, bream, chub (6 lb.). Ledgering myself, on Wednesday, fishing with Mr. P. Geen, bream, 3 lb., and some fine roach; water lowering, and better colour. As I am to have the pleasure of waiting on the same gentleman again this week, you may expect better news next week.—JAMES HASLETT.

Staines.

Mr. Jon's, the new proprietor of the Swan Hotel, has made a piscatorial start in this neighbourhood, having been out one day with John Keene, sen., and taken seven chub up to 3 lb. each. John Keene, jun., during the week forty dozen of dace and two dozen of roach. E. Keene in one day sixteen dozen of dace and thirteen roach, one weighing 1 lb. 10 oz.; and Charles Hone in one day three jack.

UPPER THAMES.

The excessive rainfall of the last five days has again spoilt the hitherto good outlook for angling. The water is now the colour of clay, and all fish are dead off the feed. A few frosty nights will, however, soon alter the state of things, and I am of opinion, as a resident on the Thames, that no flood will this year worry either riverside people or anglers, as it has for the past ten. At Marlow, that "grand old man," as an angler and otherwise, Mr. Owen Wright, on Friday took a pretty jack of 10½ lb., and lost two others of less proportions. At Hurley, visitors to the Bell on the 6th inst. got some 14 lb. of roach, divided amid seven or eight London clubmen.

Thursday evening—River very thick, but in the absence of rain will be in fine fettle by the 13th for any winter all-round work. Wind, S.W.—MARLOW BUZZ.

Monkey Island.

Fishing has been very good until Monday last. Mr. A. Dunn-Gardner, fishing with my son, got some very good chub, and also a good take of roach and dace, several of the roach from ¾ to 1 lb.; also some very handsome perch, some going over 1 lb. Dace seem on the increase: we have had better dace fishing this season than for some years. Some bank anglers had some good takes of roach on the 6th; one they call Henry had a very fine show of roach weighing over 14 lb.; they were all good size fish, some of them just upon 1 lb. A Mr. Allard also had a fine show of roach. Several other bankers did well, but I do not know their names. Most of these roach were taken in Queen's Deep, just below Monkey Island. The water has been very thick, but clearing down fast. I should think it will be in good condition by the end of the week for all round fishing.—R. PLUMMER, Senr.

Goring.

Water now going down fast and getting clear. By the end of the week, water will be in good order for all-round fishing. There were a few good jack taken here last week, one jack of 12 lb. Roach are biting very well, and so are gudgeon. To-day, Thursday, I have taken about two dozen of good roach and four dozen of gudgeon.—JOHN RUSH.

Eynsham.

A few very good takes of roach and perch are reported to me by local anglers. I have had two hours this afternoon in the Evenlode and caught six roach weighing 5½ lb. The water in all our streams is now simply perfection for all-round fishing; lob and red worms are the best bait for roach and perch.—W. B. HOWE.

Oxford.

To-day prospects are far from encouraging. The river has assumed a colour which bids defiance to anything in the shape of practical work but spinning or paternostering, though I fancy the latter method, in the disturbed state of the water, would be anything but successful. A fine chub, weighing 3 lb., was taken with a minnow at Riddington on Monday, from a piece of the Cherwell, which has degenerated from a splendid stretch of chubby water, from which I have, from one time or the other, made some splendid bags of these fish, into a very mediocre and almost worthless bit of fishing, owing to the shameful manner in which the farmers are netting the river, and I only wonder that the fish lived to attain such proportions. On Thursday, in the Waterferry district, Mr. English had four jack weighing 7 lb.; and at Wolvercote, between Eynsham and Godstow, Mr. Hastings, in addition to a nice little three pounder, grassed a brace and a-half of smaller fish, going about 1½ lb. each. From King's Weir to the lock results have been nil, Mr. Tanner in a week not getting a single snatch. To-day, Thursday, Mr. Watts captured a little fish going about 1½ lb. at Cripple Meadow, and Mr. Geo. Mundy, at Wolvercote, a jack and 4 perch, one of the latter being just upon a pound. To-night the weather has changed from muggy dampness to a bright crisp frost, which may assist towards another spell of good fishing.—MEDLEY TROUT.

[Kindly put heading and signature to your reports in future.—Ed.]

Ancholme District.

Fine weather has prevailed for most of the week, and anglers have again done very well amongst the roach, which seem to yield the most sport at present. The weather is now somewhat unsettled, but the water is still in very fine condition. I am glad to say the Riverhead Fishery is likely to get into the hands of a gentleman who has the best interests of anglers at heart. Should the negotiations be completed, which seem likely, tickets will be issued for the day at 1s. and 5s. for the season. There is an abundance of coarse fish, so that no close time will be kept. The pike will be kept down and trout increased. A fine batch of Loch Leven eggs are hatching very nicely at the Manor Fishery. Eight men have been at work cleaning out a second pond at Sudbrook for trout, and it will possibly be another month

before the job is completed. Where the mud is removed there is the finest gravelly bottom, and a grand lot of Loch Leven and other yearlings are waiting to be let down.—THOMAS FORD, Caistor.

Avon (Binton, Bidford, &c).

During a portion of this week the river has been in a state of flood, and anglers' prospects and successes in an inverse plethoric ratio. I have heard of nothing being taken but two or three pike, and a good chub or two. One troller, in his rambles, picked up the head of a remarkably fine chub, the remainder of the body, which must have weighed 5 or 6 lb., having been devoured by an otter, several of which, it appears, infest the neighbourhood of Bedford at the present time. I have since understood that Mr. Gardner, fisherman of the latter place, has trapped two of them. I have used the word "infest" in this connection. I suppose it is proper; but there is the question—do we, by their destruction, "disturb the economy of nature's realm"? and is there nothing to be said in the otter's favour? I have heard an angler say it is a beautiful sight to see the action of one in the water, and I think I could be satisfied with a few fish less for the pleasure of enjoying it; but perhaps it is an enjoyment at which one would soon cry "Hold—enough!" when the price at which it would be purchased should be computed.—J. E. B.

Bailey's Water (Chingford).

The water is in good order for fishing. Some good takes of roach during the week. A few good jack, one weighing over 7 lb.—G. BAILEY.

Chichester.

Another week of bad weather has materially interfered with the angling here. Mr. Coombes had a fair sample of roach from the canal, near Hunston on Tuesday, while Mr. Winchester took a nice pike of 5 lb. in the basin with live bait; a bream of nearly 3 lb. was also landed. To-day Thursday, is much brighter, but nothing but small roach have been on feed. At Selham, the recent rains have stopped angling for the present. A few fine days will bring the water in condition.—GEORGE S. SALTER.

Derwent (Yorkshire).

High-class anglers will learn with some pleasure that the lowering of the dam across the river Derwent at Old Malton will have the effect of restoring the salmon to the upper waters and causing it to become, as it once was, a capital salmon river. For some time stray salmon have been noticed in the Derwent, and also in several of the many streams coming through the dales, and which make this part of the country so picturesque and romantic, particularly in that coming through Ryedale and also in a rivulet called the Dove. A few months ago a large fish was found dead in the Derwent above Malton, and again last week a large salmon was discovered in a pool in Mr. John Lee's land, close to Hewle House, Old Malton. The fish had evidently come up on the flood, passed the weir successfully, and, in search of a spawning place, had reached this spot. It had become exhausted in its struggles in shallow water, and was just dead. It weighed 15 lb. The Derwent has long been celebrated for its fine trout and grayling.—LIMPER.

Dove.

The weather still continues very unseasonable. To-day (Thursday) the sun has been shining with all the brilliancy and mildness of May, and talking to a reaper on the moorlands, near Ashopton, he informed me that if the atmosphere maintains its present warmth for another fortnight, grouse will begin to pair. There has not been such a mild winter for thirty years. Already the earlier spring flies are beginning to appear on the surface of the river, and the grayling this week have been rising at them, though not to any great extent. The fish appear as if they could not understand spring coming in mid-winter. We have not had a vast number of anglers out since I last wrote, though the elements and the condition of the stream have been everything to tempt them. The winter and blue duns seem to have proved the most killing. We had a good downfall of rain on Monday night, and on the following day the bottom fishers got a few barbel as a consequence. The worm was the bait.—THE SPODGER.

Exe (Exeter)

A successful angler whose name I have not yet obtained, but will try to, has had two fine baskets of large perch at the point where the Creedy joins the main river; taken with live minnows and redworms on paternoster. I tried Cowley Bridge, but the fish would not respond to my call. Some nice dace have also been creelied out of the canal at Turf, and the Limekilns with sweet poste and gentles. Weather fine, wind westerly, prospects cheerful.—W. KELLEY.

Lakes of Killarney.

Very fine weather here at present, and lots of salmon on the rivers spawning, which seems not to be disturbed so much by floods as in other years past. The lake is in good order all the winter, and very high, and still not dirty water, as last year, so that it looks as if we were to have some good sport on January 16, which is our first day, on the Lakes of Killarney. Mr. Butler, at Waterwell, got nineteen salmon on January 7, which was his first day to begin; one of them weighed 30 lb., all the rest about 14 lb. in the round.—TIM MCCARTHY. [Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

Lark and Ouse.

Roach feeding well now in the Lark and Ouse near Littleport and Prickwillow. Mr. William Howlett, one of the committee for these waters, fishing with a friend last Friday, Andrew Antony, landed close on 40 lb. of splendid roach, some of them over 1 lb. each. We still hear of the otters doing a lot of damage to the fish in these streams.—H. MERLIN.

Lea (Ware).

The weather here is more like spring than winter, the last two days especially. The sport lately has been very bad, as the river has been too thick for fishing. On the 6th inst. the Boom was to let, for roach fishers say the roach have deserted the Boom; but I think if it had a good doing for jack they would find that that was the reason. The water is in splendid condition.—PIPE CLAY.

Leicester.

A considerable number of anglers continue to patronise the waters in and around this neighbourhood. This may be attributed, not to the extra large quantities of fish taken, but that the holidays are scarcely yet over, several of the larger places of business in Leicester not having resumed work. The waters are in good condition, therefore fishermen can hardly find any just cause for grumbling. During the latter part of Christmas week some good roach were taken from the river Soar, and several anglers fishing at the back

of Harris's showed excellent takes of this kind of fish, a good many of which weighed over a pound. At Aylestone the preserves have received a fair complement of anglers, most of them bent on securing some of the large chub that abound in these waters. Several nice fish were taken, but none of any extra large size. Pike fishing has been actively indulged in, and upon the whole with a fair amount of success. On Thursday there was another change in the weather, which was very mild for the time of year. There was a large number of fishermen out.—ALERT.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

Lodden.

The river for some time past has been in splendid condition for angling, and the weather, I may say, has been the same for all-round sport. Some fine pikey mornings we have had of late, and many and fine have been the takes, 14 to 18 lb. each being the average; chub from 2 to 5½ lb. each, perch 2 to 3½ lb. each; roach 1 to 1½ lb. each; eels, monsters, from 4 to 5½ lb. each; tench 4 lb. each, twenty-three of which averaged this weight each. I have made a very successful cast of the largest eel, chub, tench, and perch, also a 22½ lb. pike. Trout are very backward in spawning in this river this season. I have plenty of stock fish coming on, and in a few days will be ripe enough. I have only succeeded in getting about 20,000 eggs up to the present, but hope to get 100,000 by the time you receive my next report. What an excellent Christmas number of the FISHING GAZETTE you have given us this season. Although usually very good, this is *par excellence*; mine is going the round of our villages. Thanks for the second number sent me, which I have presented a gentleman of the cloth with.—FRANK GOSDEN.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

Lugg and Arrow.

There is but little difference in the state of the streams to last week. They have been visited with a slight downpour of rain, which has rather discoloured them. The weather is now very mild, and the angler can stand by the water without his top-coat, with which he has been seen on former years. On Saturday last a visit to the Arrow resulted in a very good basket of grayling being taken with the worm. Tuesday being a fine day, a gent tried the Lugg with the grasshopper, and caught some very good fish. The waters near the Brimyard Line were tried on Wednesday, and some very good grayling were taken with the maggot. A very fine pike having been seen in the water, a gent had a try for him on Tuesday, but with no luck, as he would not look at the bait. The waters at Earsland were visited with the worm, and some good grayling were taken. The Pinsley is in good order, and some very good fish were landed on Saturday last with the grasshopper, and a very good dish was taken on Tuesday with the worm. Some few good fish have been landed in the Bodenham waters this week with the worm and grasshopper. There have been but few fish taken in the Shobden part this week. On Wednesday a very good dish of grayling was taken near the station with the worm. The best bait is the worm.—GWYNNE.

Medway (Tunbridge).

The recent rains have rather thickened the water, but still the backwaters are in excellent condition for pike fishing. On Saturday last three pike were taken off the Powder Mill Point, and two higher up the river, by our secretary, the largest one being 5½ lb. On Tuesday, at a meeting of the local club, Foster, the water bailiff, was presented with a complete suit of clothes, with the initials of the club in silver letters on the collar of the coat, in appreciation of his useful services for the nine years he has held the office. It is intended to thoroughly discuss and, if need be, offer opposition to a sewage scheme which will discharge the effluent into the river above the town.—YE MEDWAY WATER RAT.

North-East Yorkshire (Pickering.)

The dull foggy weather up to the 2nd January seemed entirely to spoil all fishing; on that day, waters being low and clear and in grand condition, a couple of anglers fished the lower Derwent from Tedingham Bridge downwards three miles or better for pike—result nil. Master Esch lucius could not be persuaded to buckle to at all; probably the fog affected his vision or appetite, or both. On January 3rd and two following days a steady downpour of rain came on, effectually stopping all grayling fishing, as those know full well who have tried it, until yesterday (Wednesday), when they rose freely where waters had got down enough; but few grayling have been caught, and those with worm.—NORTH EAST.

Oulton Broad and Dyke.

The fishing remains much the same. The weather being so mild, pike don't feed, and none worth reporting have been taken. There are plenty of roach and dace, and they are biting pretty freely, but it is a long way to come from London and its neighbourhood for such small fry; and our neighbours of Norwich and Yarmouth having plenty of such fishing, our waters remain comparatively unfished. I hope when the weather gets sharper to be able to report better.—GEO. MASON.

Ouse and Ivel (Blunham.)

The water is in first-rate order, and some very good sport has been had; several jack being taken weighing from 4 lb. to 8 lb.—T.P.E.

Ouse (Littleport).

The roach have been off feed the last three days; the following are a few of the best takes for the week. Jan. 4th, Mr. A. Pacer, Newmarket, 9 lb. good roach; Mr. W. Purchas, sec. Cambridge and Ely Angling Society, 10½ lbs. roach; Mr. F. Ibbotson, Cambridge, 6½ lbs. roach. Jan. 5th, Mr. S. O. Beaman, Littleport, about 5 lbs. roach; a gentleman from Ely a jack of 2 lbs. and 4 lbs. roach. Jan. 6th, Mr. Frank Hentschel, Cambridge, 5 lbs. roach and bream, Mr. Cox, Cambridge, 4 lbs. and Mr. J. Hutt, Cambridge, 4 lb. roach, largest roach, 1 lb. 6 oz.; Mr. J. Allen, Littleport, 5 lb. roach and silver bream in one hour. Jan. 7th, Mr. Henry Lee, Cambridge, 15 lb. roach, three largest 1 lb. 3 oz., 1 lb. 3 oz., and 1 lb. 2 oz.; Mr. J. Hutt, Cambridge, 6 lb. roach, largest 1 lb. 5 oz.; Mr. W. Agger, Cambridge, 11 lbs., largest about 1 lb. each. Jan. 10th, Messrs. R. Somers, Eade, Wanstead, and H. W. Bowler, Saffron Walden, 4 lbs. good roach in 1½ hours; Mr. W. Agger, Cambridge, 12 lbs. good roach; Mr. J. Hutt, Cambridge, 5 roach and silver bream, going 4 lbs.—CHARLIE SOUTH.

Severn (Shrewsbury).

As I anticipated in my last report, the river rose several inches, but is now in grand angling condition. Several worthy disciples of old Isaac have been playing their gentle craft during the week. I hear that one or two very fair baskets of rough fish were taken above the town in the early part of the week.

I believe the Board of Conservators have appointed ex-detective Lloyd to the post of river watcher for the time being, they being unable to permanently appoint anyone except at a duly convened meeting of the Board. It is to be hoped Lloyd will then be appointed to the office, he being a very clever detective, and a man fitted in every way to meet the requirements of the anglers and river protectionists in this district, there being plenty of detective work to do. I hear from all parts of the district that salmon are plentiful. I have been told several times this week that there are a great many fish round the town. Yesterday I met one of the chief salmon-fishers of the Verniew, who says he has seen more fish this spawning season than he can remember for many years. He also says the brooks in Wales are full of trout. This is encouraging to us patient and easily satisfied anglers. There has been neither snow nor frost in this part of the country up to the present time. In fact, it has scarcely been necessary to bring out our top coats. If this state of things will only last it will be a very early season, and we shall not have long to wait before being able to say:—

"Come all ye jolly anglers, ye knights of rod and fly,
Who know our proper seasons, and various baits do try.
With dock-grub, paste, and brandlings, and gentles in our horn,
Arousing from our slumbers to greet the early morn."

—SEVERN SALMON.

Teme (Ludlow).

Anglers have had no cause to grumble this week at the state of the water or the weather, for never was a milder season for a fortnight after Christmas, and fishermen have been in no way backward to avail themselves of it. Though old "Sol" has not been seen for some days, the weather is remarkably mild, a nice south-west breeze raising the thermometer almost up to temperate. A fisherman down Steventon way on Monday caught thirteen very nice fish, which averaged at least $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. each. On Tuesday, in the Ashford water, a well known angler with the grasshopper and worm landed three brace of fine grayling, and some six or seven perch, one of which was remarkably fine; a second large one snapped the tackle and got away. Some nine graylings were caught in the Corree on Saturday, between the Railway Bridge and Elms Lodge. This is a favourite spot with Ludlow anglers. We saw on Saturday night a remarkably fine grayling which the gentleman caught that afternoon in the deep waters of the Corree, immediately adjoining a small field in the rear of what was once the old Mitre inn. We have heard of large fish being landed from this spot, but never saw one so large as the one I was shown on Saturday. The fishing up Leintwardine waters has been of an exceedingly limited character this week. We have not heard of anything worth notice having taken place either in the Clun or the Ony this week. Large numbers of salmon are up the Teme, above Ludlow, and we repeatedly hear of salmon sickening and dying in this neighbourhood. In more than one instance these unseasonable fish have been got ashore, and cut up and eaten by the captors, who were evidently unaware of the illegality of the act.—S. LUDLOW.

Teme (Tenbury.)

The water here is in very good order for fishing, there being but little difference to last week; but the water is a little higher and a little discoloured, but will soon be clear again if the rain will only keep off. The weather is far too mild for the time of the year, but it is nice for the anglers, who can stand by the waterside without their top-coats, which they have had to wear in former years. The Thyre and Rea are in good fishing order, but have very few visitors this season. The Ledwyche is in fine state for fishing, and a gentleman visited it on Saturday with the worm and landed some very good fish. On Monday a very good fish was taken with the worm. The grasshopper is used but little, as the weather is too mild, the fish taking it best in frosty weather. A visit to the Teme resulted in some very good fish being landed with the worm, and on Monday a gentleman landed six very fine fish weighing $5\frac{1}{2}$ lb. the lot. The water at Little Hereford was tried this week, and some very good fish have been taken with the worm. A gentleman fished the water down on Tuesday with the grasshopper, and landed some very good fish after a hard day's work. The water was fished on Wednesday, but the fish would hardly bite, no doubt owing to the mildness of the weather, and only four small fish were taken. The salmon have not left this part yet, the water being too low for them, and they will not attempt to go over the weirs till there is a flush of water, which does not look like coming for some time.—WORCESTER.

Trent (Alrewas).

The water has been in capital order for all-round fishing, but, owing to the holidays, few anglers have made their appearance on the river bank. Pike have been fairly on—a nice fish, over 13 lb., was taken, live baiting, by Mr. W. J. Seal, at Alrewas; and Mr. W. Reynolds has been getting, from the same locality, a few nice roach, with gentles, worms being of no use. Pike, in the pools and reservoirs, have been running more freely of late, and live baiting doing the principal execution. From Earlswood, Mr. Robert Mann has met with fair sport, but has taken nothing over 6 lb., although it is well known some larger ones are in the same locality when they feel inclined to feed. The two "doctors" have been having capital sport in private water which must be nameless. The fish were no sooner on the feed, but went suddenly off, but not before they bagged 35 lb. of nice takeable fish. From the Tame, Mr. Bullock has had some good chub and roach, with worms; and matters piscatorial, with the present fine weather, decidedly in the ascendant.—JAMES GREGORY.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

Trent (Newark).

As I anticipated in my last notes, the water came on high and thick last Saturday and Sunday, and heavy rains once or twice this week have kept the water out of condition. Several anglers have been out, but as far as I can learn, sport has been of the most meagre description. A few odd roach, dace, and bream have been killed with the cockspur worm, but nothing worth mentioning. At the time of writing (Thursday night) the water is still rather high and a good bit of colour in it; but it is clearing down very nicely, and by Sunday or Monday should be in fairish trim for general winter fishing—that is if the present favourable weather should continue; if so, chub and pike might be tried about the middle of next week, but under the present condition of the water the cockspur worm will be found the best bait, and roach, dace, and bream the most likely fish to try for.—THE TRENT OTTER.

Trent (Nottingham).

The river is very low and clear, and during the week the pike contingent have been unusually busy. Somehow or other nowadays, pike are not very numerous, and on Thursday two friends of mine, who thought they were favoured by a special permission, only succeeded in killing four fish—largest, $5\frac{1}{2}$ lb. In the Stoke Waters chub were taken with pith and brains; and on Thursday, at Willington, a number of remarkably fine dace were bagged, with

the cockspur worm. There has not been much doing amongst either bream or roach.—THE MAN AT THE CLUBS.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

The weather recently has been all that could be desired, and scores of anglers have patronised the stream. More especially was this the case on Thursday, when the greatest activity prevailed at Weston and Sbardlow. The takes were, however, no means large. One of the principal drawbacks connected with the upper reaches is the annoyance caused by the slimy refuse poured into the Trent by the Burton Brewery Companies; but we hope soon to dispose of it. An intercepting sewer has been made, by which the "stuff" will be conveyed to Egginton Common.

Witham and Fen Drains.

During the Christmas holidays a goodly number of anglers from a distance visited the Fen country in search of angling. On the whole, they were fairly well rewarded, and some good takes were made both on the Witham and on the chief drains. Roach are very plentiful. Pike are caught on the Witham at several points and also on some of the drains, and anyone in search of this kind of sport would do well not to delay a visit. The passing of the new by-laws as regards angling will be an important change in favour of anglers. For many seasons now poachers and others, under the pretence of dragging for eels, with a net, which the by-laws formerly allowed, have done almost incalculable damage to the fishery by taking out the fish wholesale, not only from the Witham but its tributaries, and the great drains emptying thereinto. Several attempts have been made to check this sort of thing by the prosecution of offenders and the forfeiture of nets, but all to little avail. The commissioners who have the control of the river and drains, and in whom the fishery is vested, have at last made an application to have the by-laws altered, or to exclude eels in the permits granted, and thus stop the practice. The fishermen of the town, who have been reaping a harvest in this manner, strongly opposed the alteration, but the magistrates showed their approval by unanimously confirming the new code.—YELLOW BELLY.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

Wye and Derwent.

Both the latter end of last week, and up to Tuesday night, good sport has been had all up and down the Derwent by the bottom fishers, both grayling, chub, roach, and dace being well on the feed. The West brothers have killed some good baskets of mixed fish, chiefly grayling and dace, and a well fed chub, all with worms for baits; several other anglers have had fair baskets, especially on New Year's Day. There has also been a few grayling killed with the artificial fly on the Chatsworth fishery of the Derwent, the clever, bumble, and furnace flies proving killers. Both on Wednesday and Thursday we have had a heavy fog prevailing, along with a quantity of rain that fell last night (Wednesday), which has quite taken the fish off the feed again. It has also discoloured both the Wye and Derwent a little—a nasty white limestone colour; a very bad killing water for these rivers.—G. J. EATON.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

The weather during the past week has been everything that the angler could wish for, and with the Derwent being in good order for bottom fishing a great many anglers have been out on various tracts of the Derwent, and I am pleased to say that one and all of them have had fair catches. The best basket was killed yesterday, $5\frac{1}{2}$ brace of grayling, and 6 brace of good sized roach, besides a pike of 5 lb.—all killed near Whatstandwell. The fish have taken the cockspur worm the best of anything that has been used. We have had several anglers out, trying their hands with pith and brains, but the fish seem to take them very badly on the Derwent, although we have some good chub holes with a good store of fish in them. There has been a fair quantity of natural flies out on these rivers during the week, but no fish rising up to the present time. Weather very mild.—G. J. EATON.

Yare (Norwich).

The fishing news on this stream is nil; but from various sources I hear of catches of very moderate kinds being had, on private waters, around Norwich, and in all cases the same result, very small fish; one party out for four days lately, took 20 fish, the whole of which (he being a thorough sportsman), he returned to their native element, as they did not run to the necessary weight. In one or two cases, I have heard of a good fish of 10 lbs. and upwards being landed; but, unfortunately, the members of the gentle craft are almost Masonic as to their catches, &c, whereas, if they openly declared their catch, and said they were caught on "the other side of Jordan," we, in Norwich, should all know that they meant the noble proprietor did not wish for wholesale applications for leave to fish his waters. The weather is all that can be desired, except want of wind for Jack fishing. The waters are rather low, and very clear: with a rise of wind and water, execution will commence.—ROBERT MOLL.

Yore (Hawes.)

It is now many weeks since I sent you any notes, and I am afraid you will have come to the conclusion that I have forgotten you. I may do so when my right hand forgets its cunning, but not before. The spawning season in this district has been highly satisfactory, and, owing to the open weather, we may expect the fish to be in grand trim by the opening day, February 11th. Grayling fishing is, by the by-laws, stopped until the 14th of next month. Grayling anglers have had a very merry time, many good baskets having fallen to Messrs. Willan and Hesseltime, and your humble servant. Mr. Walbran a few weeks ago almost described our method. The float we use is a small piece of quill, the cast is hair, the tackle is Stewart (two hooks), and the bait the common roadside worm, or, as it is technically called, the "white worm," well scoured. I have been very much interested in the articles appearing in the GAZETTE on the use of the air-bladder. With all due deference to my superiors in the study of fishes, I cannot let the opportunity pass without venturing to remark that, in my opinion, the air-bladder is an all-important implement in the ejection of the ova or milt. I have always found the air-bladder much more distended after the operation of spawning is over than at other times. I have known a late spawned grayling to be to all appearance a veritable Falstaff turn a most slenderly Slender when cleaned. Anent the flounder, I am of the belief that there are fresh water flounders. I have killed hundreds in the Eden, and have even seen them up the runners of that river, and I am most decidedly of opinion that the flounder will breed in fresh water, having caught them (when a lad) in the Eden and the lower reach of the Petterel, so small that it would take ten or twelve for a pound. Spring is the best time for angling for them, before the eels (with which the Eden swarms) stir much. Trout will eat their own spawn more voraciously than that of the salmon. I make this statement strongly convinced of the truth of it. It is a well-known fact in this district that cured trout spawn is much more killing

than salmon spawn treated in exactly the same way. It also commands a higher price in this locality. With respect to the leanness of Semmerwater trout, rudd and bream are so numerous that they devour by far the greatest share of the feed as it is coming through the lake; consequently, the trout at the outlet of the lake are poorer and smaller than their brethren in the upper part of the lake. I do not know of any place in England with the same feeding capabilities as Semmerwater. It literally swarms with crayfish (I took 1,400 one afternoon) and minnows, and were the large armies of bream and rudd cleared off I venture to assert the trout would be second to none; in fact, the trout inhabiting the head river of the lake are as much different to their brethren of the outlet as chalk is to cheese. Semmerwater is a bream-fisher's paradise. They are thousands strong. Rudd are literally legion. Eels there are in moderate numbers. Trout swarm. I took over sixty one day, killing two at a time eight times over. If the water is in condition they will bite like minnows. Semmerwater, in the opinion of many about here, is the nursery for the Yore. The sooner the net license is enforced the better. I saw one farmer with the skin off his hands through working the cowl net so energetically. I have before written in favour of the admission of salmon to the headwaters of the Yore, and do not as yet see any reason why I should alter my opinion. I do not believe trout fishing deteriorates on the admission of salmon to a river. I find, on the contrary, an improvement in size, and no diminution in number, but a decided inclination to feed more freely. Rod-fishing will never hurt the Yore, and the only hope I see of stopping netting is by the introduction of the salmon.—J. CORRY.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

A UNIFORM SIZE FOR WINCH FASTENINGS AND A STANDARD OF SIZES FOR HOOKS.

We notice from *Forest and Stream* that American anglers are agitating to get their rod makers to adopt one uniform size for winch plates. It would be very desirable for our English rod makers to adopt some uniform size. The present system of making the fastenings of different sizes causes the angler an endless amount of entirely unnecessary worry, while it does not add one farthing to the profit of the maker, in fact, the reverse, for an angler frequently decides to purchase a winch he has taken a fancy to when he finds it will not fit his rods. In the same way the present bewildering system of numbering hooks is of no advantage to the makers; indeed, it only gives them and their customers an endless amount of unnecessary trouble. Why should there not be as much certainty of getting what you want when ordering hooks as when ordering a gun or cartridges? We are certain that the sporting papers and anglers generally will warmly support any combined action of the trade for the purpose of establishing a uniform size for winch fastenings, and a uniform numbering of hooks. We would gladly aid our manufacturers by giving illustrations, drawn to scale, of any standards that might be decided upon. We recommend these suggestions to the attention of the hook makers of Redditch and Kendal, and of manufacturers of rods and lines generally. They could not show their known willingness to please those for whose use they make their goods better than by remedying a long-felt grievance—one which has been complained of by every angler and angling writer.

HOW TO CHOOSE GUT.

In choosing gut of any kind be not too much guided by an apparent thickness, but, as far as your time and patience will permit, select such as is perfectly round; and to prove it so, try each piece by turning it quickly between the forefinger and thumb, for if it be in anywise flat this will only be effected with difficulty, and then you may safely condemn it. Each piece or length should be also to the teeth hard, like wire, colourless, and transparent as glass, which testifies strength, free from unravelled fibres, which are attended with an inclination to split or peel; knotted roughness, which shows almost actual rotteness; the spaces between the knots, when pulled lengthways between the fingers, being soft and weak; or flashing lights, when seen in a slanting direction, which indicate flatness, and consequent weakness. It should possess stiffness, too, in bending, and with this should be combined elasticity, so that after being doubled upon itself (in the shape of a loop, for instance), if in thus doubling it assumes anything like an angularity it will not do, for it surely possesses unequal degrees of strength, even if, where it forms into such angles, it be not absolutely rotten. Salmon gut may be in substance as thick as you can find it, and you will possess a treasure if, in one hank, many lengths are as thick as a middling-sized pin or stout knitting needle. In length, the part for use should run from sixteen to eighteen inches at least, and the longer the better, provided the substance be uniform. The thicker trout gut should be of the diameter of ordinary sewing silk, whilst the thinner sort may be almost the very finest you can procure, provided it be "round and sound," and keeping in view all other requisites for strength. Ten to sixteen inches is the usual length of each strand.—From "Chitty's Fly-fisher's Text-book."

THE DRESSING OF "EVANS'S" SALMON FLY.*

Hook No. 6 or 7. Mulberry floss-silk body, golden pheasant's crest tail, under which are several turns of the thinnest silver wire and some turns of the floss-silk; the silver wire is then carried over the body spirally; close under the wings is wound a small dark partridge hackle. The wings are of—First, brown speckled mallard; second, about a dozen fibres from the golden pheasant's ruff; third, three or four fibres of bright green parakeet, and above them are about a dozen strands of dark mottled, or rather striped, turkey. Above the wing is hackled either a striped blue jay's feather, or a marlow-buzz hen's hackle, which is, perhaps, preferable; and then a beading of ostrich herl completes the fly.

CHITTY'S RECIPE FOR POTTING TROUT, CHAR, AND ALL KINDS OF SMALL FISH.

Open your fish and, without washing, rub them clean with dry cloths; cut off heads, tails, and fins; lay them in a small baking-dish, having first seasoned them highly with a portion of the mixture I will mention presently, and bake them in a "cool" oven with as much fresh butter as, when melted, will cover them, allowing them to remain in the oven till all the bones are dissolved. The time this part of the operation takes depends on the heat of the oven. The butter is then to be drained off, and the fish carefully removed into proper potting-pots, and well pressed down so as to leave no spaces of air between

* Chitty describes this as the choicest in his collection for a small bright water.—ED.

them. Fresh butter, melted and clarified, is then poured over the top, as we usually see potted meats, shrimps, &c., done; and when cold it is fit for the table. Should the fish be large, say above a quarter or half pound, it is better to scale them and take out the back bones. The following is the mixture, which will suffice for thirty or forty pounds of fish, and if kept corked in a glass bottle may be used as occasion requires:—

Six	teaspoonfuls of ground black pepper.
Six	" " allspice.
Four	" " mace.
Two	" " cloves.
Two	" " nutmeg.
One	" " cayenne.

And to every spoonful of this mixture add, at the time of using, but not before, one spoonful of salt.

RECIPE FOR WATERPROOFING LINES.

To a quarter of a pint of "double boiled cold-drawn" linseed oil, add one ounce of gold size. Gently warm and mix them well, being first careful to have the line quite dry. While the mixture is warm, soak the line therein till it is fully saturated to its very centre, say for twenty-four hours. Then pass it through a piece of flannel, pressing it sufficiently to take off the superficial coat, which enables that which is in the interior to get stiff. The line must then be hung up in the air, wind, or sun, out of the reach of moisture, for about a fortnight, till pretty well dry. It must then be re-dipped to give an outer coat, for which less soaking is necessary; after this, wipe it again but lightly, wind it on a chair-back or towel-horse before a hot fire, and there let it remain for two or three hours, which will cause the mixture on it to "flow," as japaners term it, and give an even gloss over the whole. It must then be left to dry as before; the length of time, as it depends on the weather and place, observation must determine upon. By this means it becomes impervious to wet, and sufficiently stiff never to clog or entangle, the oil producing the former quality and the gold size (which is insoluble in water) the latter; while the commixture prevents the size becoming too hard and stiff. A trolling-line should be thus dressed every season at least.—From "Chitty's Fly-fisher's Text-book."

GRASSHOPPER FISHING.

From my experience of grayling-fishing on the river Teme and other waters in the neighbourhood of Ludlow. I can safely say that more and larger grayling are taken with the artificial grasshopper than with any other bait during the winter months, providing the water is in order. It should be rather low, and little or no stain on it, and weather frosty. The artificial grasshopper is dressed on the shank of a No. 3 or 4 hook; sneek bent is best, the shank to be leaded from near the bend to the top, and covered with green worsted, a small strip of straw down each side, and ribbed with orange silk. With the one I inclose I caught six grayling a few days ago; I then got fast to a root and broke the hook. Use about 4 feet of good strong gut—it does not require to be very fine—and a very small quill float. The use of the float is to see when the bait touches the bottom. You can readily feel a bite. Put about four maggots on the bend of the hook. With the line about the length of the rod, if the place will admit, drop your bait into any likely-looking place, say a deep curl near to a rapid stream, or any still or slow-running water that is not too shallow, and where grayling are known to resort in the winter months. Let it sink slowly to the bottom; don't let the line go too slack, keeping your eye on the small float. Immediately you perceive that the bait touches the bottom raise the top of the rod to pull it up about 18 inches, then let it fall again. Continue these motions round the hole, then pull out and repeat the cast. There is no need to stay long in one place. If there is a grayling about that means it, he will soon be at you. If you don't get a bite in about ten minutes move on to the next place. The grayling are about the same with the grasshopper as trout are with the minnow—they don't take long to consider about it. Strike when you feel a pull. It will be sure to be a fish, or a root, or something else. I'm so used to the feel of a grayling, directly he begins to wobble about I know what I've got; the hook being large and the gut strong, they generally get well hooked. I have heaved a grayling 1½ lb. out without a landing net. I have occasionally caught perch, chub, trout, and pike with the grasshopper.—I am, &c.,

T. B. HODGER.

13, Raven Lane, Ludlow.

[We tried the grasshopper in the Wharfe recently, but did not get a touch, though Mr. Walbran, with the worm, was getting a few close by us. We have killed grayling with this bait in the Teme and Clun; but in Yorkshire it appears not to answer, as we have often heard of it being tried in vain.—ED.]

THE KINGFISHER.—The length of the kingfisher is about 7 inches. The plumage may be thus described:—From the crown of the head, down the neck, and the whole of the upper part, the wings and tail, are of a brilliant green, shading from olive to iridescent emerald and blue; from the beak across the eye is a patch of rufous, which becomes white below the ear-coverts; from the base of the beak runs a streak of the above-mentioned glossy green, which meets that upon the wing-coverts. The chin and throat are yellowish-white; the breast and under-parts are rufous, deepening in colour as it proceeds towards the tail. The feet are pink and small. The tail is short; but the beak is long and straight. The plumage is much brighter during the breeding season. The female may be distinguished by her duller hues, and from the bill not being so long. The nest has always been a source of wonder to ornithologists. It is generally placed in some hole in a bank overhanging a stream, but sometimes placed away from water; a favourite position is a hole in the bank of some river or stream which has been undermined by the action of the waters, and so affording a somewhat safer retreat from the depredations of the rats that frequent such places. The nest, too, is very peculiar. It would appear to be composed of the bones of the fish captured by the birds. Some naturalists have said that these bones are "cast" up by the birds, and that the nest is made upon this accumulation. It is generally well hidden, and, except for the rats, the kingfisher, being so beautiful, need fear few foes; it was, however, a favourite "sport" of some possessed of a gun some years ago, to kill these beautiful birds, and as they fly straight they are easily marked. Yet there are few things more interesting than to watch one of them whilst fishing. Many an Oxford man has seen these birds along the Cherwell, skimming the water under Magdalen Bridge, or, having drifted noiselessly in his boat with the stream, has seen them seated upon an overhanging bough, watching the water with anxious eye until the long-wished-for prey appears. The kingfisher then darts down, even swifter than a gull, secures its prey, and by its buoyancy regains the use of its wings, and flies off with the prize to its nest, if it be possessed of one, otherwise returning to its "post of vantage."—From *Familiar Wild Birds* for January.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

GIMP.—The index is in hand, and will be ready shortly.

T. P. R.—The Thames fence months for coarse fish are from the 15th of March to the 15th of June, inclusive of these dates. For trout, from September 10th to March 31st.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

[Several letters, including long ones from the Lon. sec. of the Henley Angling Association, Messrs Hardy, Bros., &c., received after our space allotted to correspondence was already overcrowded, are held over until next week. The earlier in the week letters are sent to us, the more chance is there of their appearing the same week.—ED.]

THE BETTER PRESERVATION OF OUR PUBLIC WATERS.

SIR,—Pardon me, but I think you are rather too hard on Mr. Parker's timely and valuable suggestions; his ideas are not so impracticable as you would have us believe. For the information of all whom it may concern—especially our Sheffield friends—allow me to say that the Boston Angling Association have put into practice, in a modified form, the very thing Mr. Parker suggests.

Ours is a free fishery, and, without egoism, I venture to say it is one of, if not the largest of its kind in the kingdom—156 miles are under protection.

We levy no tax, and therein lies our difficulty in providing a force competent to deal with the numerous and determined gangs of poachers who infest our district. A paid keeper is employed, and not only do we consider it his duty to patrol our river and drains, but we have the best of proof that he carries this out most zealously. We get from him a written report of the ground patrolled, and a tention is drawn by him instantly to anything irregular he may notice going on. A vigilance committee of six volunteer to act as assistant keepers in cases of emergency; and be it known, they have been properly appointed as such by the Witham Commissioners. And as to their utility, why, sir, doesn't the fact that, mainly owing to their efforts, no less than three convictions were brought home to the poaching fraternity within a space of six months speak for itself? The Association have been fortunate enough to secure the co-operation of the rural police, whose assistance is always readily given, and they prove a tower of strength. Need I say "The Boys in Blue" are held in grateful remembrance. Don't forget their Christmas Box! So tolerant are the Boston Angling Association to fair rod and line anglers that they would never dream of subjecting creels, bags, or punts to a search for poaching implements. But once let suspicion be aroused that some unprincipled rodster indulged a trimmer on the quiet, and he would have to mind his "P's" and "Q's"; if he escaped being caught in the act, then woe betide him! It may interest your readers to know that, notwithstanding the opposition of a most notorious poacher, the amended by-laws of the Witham Commissioners, as drafted by the Boston and Lincoln Angling Association, have been confirmed and allowed in quarter Sessions—see extracts from the *Stamford Mercury* inclosed.—I am, &c.,

THE BOSTON BITTERN.

P.S.—How many degrees is a poacher removed from a thief?

The following are the extracts from the by-laws referred to by our correspondent:—

WITHAM DRAINAGE ACT AMENDED BY-LAWS.

PART 2.—AS TO FISHING.

"1. No person shall fish in the rivers, streams, drains, waters, and watercourses under our jurisdiction and control or any of them in any other manner than with a rod and line, and the landing-net or gaff for securing fish when hooked; and if at any time pike shall be taken which shall measure less than twelve inches in length from the eye to the tail the same shall be returned to the water immediately.

"2. No person shall fish for pike except by the received usages and customs of fair angling, that is trolling, spinning, or live baiting. All trailing or dragging is strictly prohibited.

"3. No person shall fish with more than two rods and lines, or at any time use, place, or set in any of the rivers, streams, drains, waters, and watercourses within our jurisdiction and control any nets, bottom lines, bank lines, or trimmers (either floating or stationary), or snares.

"4. No person shall fish in any manner whatever in any of the rivers, streams, drains, waters, and watercourses within our jurisdiction and control in any year between the 15th day of March and the 15th day of June, both inclusive.

"5. Any water bailiff or other person appointed by us, the General Commissioners, and also any other person specially authorised in this behalf, may enter into any fishing boat or other vessel employed, or about to be employed, or having been employed in fishing or taking fish or endeavouring to take fish on any river or stream under our jurisdiction and control, and may therein search for fish unlawfully taken, and for any unlawful or prohibited net or apparatus for taking or destroying fish, and may seize any such fish, net or apparatus found therein, and may also seize on the bank of any such river or stream any fish unlawfully taken, or any unlawful or prohibited net or apparatus for taking or destroying fish, which fish, net, or apparatus so seized shall be liable, at the discretion of the convicting Justices, to be forfeited.

"6. The duties of the water bailiffs or other persons appointed, or to be appointed from time to time, by us the General Commissioners, shall be to carry into effect these By-laws in accordance with the powers and provisions of 'The Witham Drainage Act of 1865.'

"7. Provided that nothing in these By-laws shall interfere with any existing rights of Lords of Manors, or of any other person whomsoever.

And if any person or persons shall offend against any of the foregoing By-laws every person so offending shall for every offence forfeit and pay a sum not exceeding Five Pounds, to be recoverable on summary conviction of the offender before a Justice or Justices of the Peace after summoning the offender."

[We have much pleasure in giving space to our old correspondent, "The Boston Bittern," and congratulate the Boston Angling Association on the, on the whole, very capital set of By-laws which they have managed to get the commissioners to agree to. At the same time we cannot see any similarity between the suggestion of Mr. Parker that every office bearer in a club, before he can become an office-bearer, must take out a warrant to act as river keeper, and also always be on the look-out to "detect" his brother club men in something or other, and the fact that the Boston Association having only one keeper on

156 miles of water naturally find it necessary to employ six unpaid keepers. Something very like this is done by the Thames Angling Association, one or two of the committee, who live on the river, holding warrants; but this is a totally different thing from appointing all the club officers of every club land and water bailiffs. In some clubs there are six officers, or more; but taking them as only three, that would give us six or seven hundred "preventive detectives" on our metropolitan public waters. We maintain that Mr. Brougham and Mr. Ghurney do not require this aid, and if they do they will probably prefer one or two paid men under their own control to these gentleman keepers. As we said last week, Mr. Parker has, we are quite sure, only the interests of anglers at heart; but he will permit me to say that, in our opinion (and in that of all anglers we have mentioned the matter to), this plan would not answer.—ED.]

THE TESTIMONIAL TO MR. HOOLE.

SIR,—When reading my *FISHING GAZETTE* I came across a list of subscriptions to the above. I trust the list is not likely to be closed just yet for the credit of the anglers of London, seeing it is the last opportunity for every one to show how much they appreciate the labours which have gained them so many benefits. I am one of Mr. Hoole's most intimate friends (and he can count his friends by scores), and remember when the association was first inaugurated, when Messrs. Hoole and Geen never knew (except on Sundays) what it was to get into bed before one o'clock in the morning. They were always at one club or another trying to induce the members to enroll, so as to enable them to gain those grand privileges which to day we are all enjoying. For nearly seven long years has Mr. Hoole held the post of secretary to the association and never accepted one penny for his services, but gave time, money and experience freely and willingly for the benefit of all anglers. I know for a fact that he has gone to meetings many times more fit to be in bed, and it must be borne in mind that his business was such as to compel him to work after midnight every alternate night.

The natural consequence of such hard and incessant work was that he was laid (as most of your readers are aware) upon a bed of sickness for over 13 weeks being assured by his doctor it was caused by over-taxing his strength. And for whom was all this done? Certainly for no benefit of his own; but because the cause he had so much at heart should flourish, and that the many thousands of hard-working anglers might reap the benefit.

Anyone knowing these facts must be astonished to read the list above referred to. There are nearly 200 angling clubs in London alone and every member has reaped, and is still reaping, a benefit from Mr. Hoole's labours and yet there are only the names of 28 clubs subscribing. Yes—you may well look surprised—only 28. It's surely a mistake, Mr. Editor.

I have always understood anglers to be such a liberal body of men and will believe so until I find they will not be more generous towards those who toil for their good.

I believe that when Mr. Hoole resigned the secretaryship he was a poorer man by some £190, and yet his friends made an appeal on his behalf, and after two months the handsome sum of £61 13s. 6d. is subscribed, and out of that sum £33 17s. is subscribed by his own personal friends. For the honour of our craft, don't let it be said that the man who has done so much for us is at last obliged to say that he worked for the ungrateful anglers of London—I am, &c.,

LINCOLN GREEN.

[If anything we could say (more than we have already done) would strengthen this appeal, we would gladly say it. It is, every word of it, true, and it will be a lasting disgrace to London club anglers if they do not show Mr. Hoole that they do appreciate the services he has rendered. It is apathy, more than anything else, which stands in the way. We think we are right in saying that the members of every club in London use the railway privilege tickets;—why, then, do they not recognise the services of those who obtained those privileges? For the benefit of those using these tickets, and thus saving in many cases many pounds per year, we may mention that the privileges were obtained chiefly, if not entirely, through the exertions of Messrs. Geen, Hoole, Ghurney, Bonvoisin, Hatfield, Murphy, and one or two others, whose names we forget at the moment.—ED.]

TROUT AND GRAYLING v. SALMON.

SIR,—I am pleased to see that you have thrown your columns open for the discussion of a matter so closely affecting the interest of Yorkshire anglers as the proposed introduction of salmon into the Wharfe and other of our favourite trout streams. I quite endorse what was said by "Democrat" in your last issue; but there is another light in which I think the matter may be considered.

At the present time, owing to the liberality of the Duke of Devonshire and other riparian owners, one or two fishing clubs are able to issue tickets to their members at a moderate charge, compared with what has to be paid in some parts of England; and I am afraid if the Wharfe were to become a fairly good salmon river the poorer classes of anglers, to which I belong, would have to give way to those who have money at their disposal. What I mean is, that whilst the Wharfe is merely a trout and grayling stream, we may expect landlords to continue their generosity to the clubs; but if salmon can be successfully introduced, these gentlemen will probably be induced to make capital out of the river by letting the fishing to those well able to pay a good price for it. All anglers with whom I have conversed on the subject agree in thinking that a tax of £1 13s. 4d. on nets would be productive of beneficial results, as "cowl" netting, as stated by "Wharfe," is carried on in the most abominable manner.—I am, &c.,

SKIPTON.

P.S.—I inclose a few names and addresses of non subscribers to the *GAZETTE*. Allow me to congratulate you on your splendid Christmas number.

EEL CULTURE.

SIR,—Please say in your next issue if there have been any discussions on eel culture in your pages at any time; if so, in what numbers of the *GAZETTE*? I should be glad of the opinions of any of your correspondents on the subject. An article did appear in the *Standard* on the subject a fortnight ago.—I am, &c.,

NANTWICH.

GIMP.

[Eel culture has not been specially referred to by us, as we do not think, except from a commercial point of view, that it is desirable to increase the numbers of this fish in our streams; it can only be done at the expense of other fish. Besides, there is no lack of eels in those rivers which are suited to their habits, and it is useless to put them into others. We can give our readers an account of the Continental eel farms, and if any of them express a wish for it will do so.—ED.]

YORKSHIRE FISHERY BOARD.

SIR,—I had earnestly hoped that, owing to the strong feeling manifested by Yorkshire anglers, the Board had abandoned the idea of rendering greater facilities for the ascent of salmon up the Yore, Wharfe, and Swale; but it appears, from the report published recently by you, that the matter has only been held in abeyance and is now likely to crop up again more vigorously than ever.

In my letter, which appeared when the matter was being discussed last year, both in this paper and the *Yorkshire Post* I expressed myself very strongly against the proposed measure, and entered into full details of the evil results accruing from the admission of salmon into a trout or grayling stream. I will not, therefore, again enter into them, but merely relate a recent experience upon the Yore.

As most anglers are aware, the present season has been most favourable for the ascent of spawning fish, mainly owing to the fact that heavy floods existed at the time most convenient to them. The result is that both the Yore and Wharfe are thronged with kelt in a most wretched condition, and which are a source of great annoyance to the winter fishermen. I was fishing near Tanfield and came to a deep stream, at the tail of which I knew there were plenty of grayling, but to my astonishment I could not get a touch. After a good deal of scheming, I at length caught a fish about $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. in weight, and then the reason of their disinclination to feed was apparent. Salmon spawn was literally running from its mouth, proving that the whole tribe was busily engaged in trying a change of diet. I recollect a similar occurrence a few years ago during a similar season.

Later in the afternoon I came to a broad shallow flat, at one side of which was a curly, eddy pool. I waded carefully up the shallow, and throwing lightly into the head of the pool succeeded in landing a couple of grayling, which, upon being hooked, I immediately brought down stream, and played them out below me on the shallow. Just as I was basketing the second a tremendous splash just behind me caused me to jump almost out of my wading stockings, and the next moment a miserable, emaciated kelt rushed past me into my cherished pool, from which I had fondly hoped to extract another brace or two of grayling. I will leave the ensuing scene to the imagination of my readers, merely remarking that if annoyances like this occur now, what will be the state of affairs if salmon passes are attached to the various weirs, and a series of hatching-boxes instituted? At one time salmon-fishing might be enjoyed both by the rich and poor man; now it is almost exclusively monopolised by the wealthy, for the simple reason that others cannot afford to indulge in it. As your Bradford correspondent remarks, surely sufficient scope is afforded the salmon-fisher in the Scotch and Irish lakes and rivers without encroaching upon the smaller streams throughout England, and thus spoiling utterly the innocent enjoyment of thousands of anglers who are compelled to rest content with an occasional day of trout and grayling-fishing. Respecting the imposition of taxes upon cowl nets and night lines, the Board are to be congratulated, provided that the law is strictly enforced, as some of the best lengths on both Yore and Wharfe are simply ruined by such means. It would also be a source of great satisfaction to Wharfedale anglers if the flow of sewage matter into the river at Otley and Ilkley could be averted, for, although it does not visibly affect the colour of the water, its presence cannot be very beneficial to piscine health, or that of those persons who have to drink the water, which is of far greater importance.—I am, &c.,

FRANCIS M. WALBRAN.

THE YORKSHIRE FISHERY BOARD.

SIR,—We expected, from the discussion of last year, that a tax would be levied on all nets. It is useless clubs going to the expense of stocking and preserving lengths, simply to provide fish for these pseudo-poachers. The aggravation is, wherever a farmer has a net, he won't let his length to a club unless he has the right of netting reserved. Of course, in order to keep their lengths intact, a club thinks it politic to be satisfied with half a loaf in place of a whole one.

There is not the slightest doubt if the Fishery Board stepped in and levied a tax upon all nets, there is scarcely a farmer in the district who would pay it; and as the funds on this head would be nil, few trout anglers would object to pay a small tax upon rods, or otherwise subscribe to defray the necessary expenses incurred by putting a stop to this, the greatest annoyance to all true lovers of the gentle art.—I am, &c.,

HIGHER WHARFEDALE.

[Wherever we have got permission from a farmer to fish on his land we have always, if successful, sent up a brace or two of good fish for his table. If this plan were more generally followed, the farmer would soon become the angler's best friend. Again, we always most religiously shut every gate, and avoid doing damage, and it not only pays, but in our opinion is justly due to the farmer in return for the privilege he gives.—ED.]

ANGLING RIGHTS IN NORFOLK.

SIR,—In the name of the Great Yarmouth Piscatorial Society, I thank you for your goodness in assisting us so handsomely to carry out the case of Heigham Sounds. If a few more gentlemen would do as you and Mr. Spreckley have done, then we should not dread to resist any future riparian encroachments on the part of any of the landowners in our district.

When the question of closing the Broads was first mooted, had the people stood firm to their just and legal rights, many splendid sheets of magnificent water, simply teeming with fish, now strictly closed, would be open to them.

The subject I consider a really important one, and one which it is much more the duty of the Government of the country to take up, than an almost unknown provincial piscatorial society.

The population of the country is now becoming so vast, and the fields for recreation so limited, that nothing is so likely to engender revolutionary ideas, even in the minds of the most contented, than to close the few remaining playgrounds against an already too much elbowed-out public.

As far as our society is concerned, we could easily have obviated all the trouble we have had in connection with this case, by simply admitting the claim of the proprietress over the water in dispute, and by paying a nominal sum annually as a proof of the admission; but upon principle we objected to this proposition, preferring to fight, rather than in any way to jeopardise public rights. For this reason I do think we are deserving of the support, not only of all anglers, but of the public generally, and I sincerely trust that when the case is clearly understood such support will be forthcoming.—I am, &c.,

ALEXANDER MITCHELL.

Burton House, Great Yarmouth.

[Dr. Mitchell is perfectly right. We only wish all landowners would follow the public-spirited example of Mr. Edward Birkbeck, M.P., and many other gentlemen who, while reserving as much water as they want for their own use, throw open the rest to fair anglers.—ED.]

FEATHERS OF THE FIELDFARE WANTED.

SIR,—Can you or any of your readers tell me where I can get some feathers of the fieldfare?—I am, &c., J. H. Bradford.

[We should have thought that some of the Bradford birdcatchers could easily have supplied fieldfare or grey thrush's feathers.—ED.]

TROUT CULTURE.

SIR,—I should feel greatly obliged if you would kindly inform me as to whether I am legally right in spawning wild trout in streams where I have permission from the owners of the land to do so, and is it considered cruelty to spawn them? as the neighbouring gentry seem to think that it is not only cruel, but illegal, and that gathering the spawn and rearing it, as I do by artificial means, will reduce the stock of trout in the river Churnet. I may add I have been a subscriber to your paper some years, but have procured them from our local newsagent.—I am, &c.,

ROBT. RUSHTON.

Leek.

[If you have permission from the land owners you are doing nothing illegal in spawning wild trout as you describe; there is no cruelty in it. Of course, if you take a large proportion of the eggs there will not be so many left to come to fish, but if you gave back a few thousand fry every year you would do the fishing far more good than harm, and no one could complain. We think every one who is permitted to spawn fish and take the eggs away, should be required to make some recompense in the shape of fry.—ED.]

A CURE FOR THE SALMON DISEASE—IMPREGNATING OVA OF DISEASED FISH.

SIR,—Some friend has sent me a copy of your *GAZETTE*. I see you are open to anything new in the fish way.

The dreadful destruction of salmon said to be diseased has been going on for three years on the Tweed, the Tay, and the Forth, in Scotland. I tried to cure several very badly diseased fish, and succeeded beyond expectation. My friend Mr. List, superintendent of bailiffs, Berwick, did the same and succeeded. Why should a salmon, if diseased, be any worse to cure than cattle or fowls? Yet our proprietors won't believe it, so long as their rents are regularly paid. But were the tenant refusing to pay, then they would adopt some system. It seems the value of fish killed and burnt for the last three years has been estimated at £30,000.

This season the proprietors on the Tay have stopped the destruction of the fish this winter. A gentleman, well versed in pisciculture, very kindly offered to capture and convey the fish to an infirmary, a quiet place on the river side, so as to cure and keep them till quite better, and so save a valuable commodity and food of the people. To this they could not agree among themselves, so the disease seems to extend to an alarming extent, and thousands will be affected by this contagion, and many will succumb to it. At my advice a water bailiff obtained a bottle of milt, and on finding a very large dead baggot, he opened it and succeeded in obtaining a large quantity of fine ova; he then mixed a quantity of milt with the ova and dispatched this to the Royal Emporium, Edinburgh, and by the proprietor it was dispatched to his hatcheries at his angling Loch, at Cobbinshaw, and placed in the boxes, and I am happy to say, even after so long a journey, scarcely 5 per cent. of the whole were dead. This is most strange, seeing how they were procured and conveyed in a small tin. I am happy to say that after 21 days the ova is all alive and appearing to be very healthy. This is the first time such an attempt has been made, and shows that were the milt and ova secured of all dead diseased fish a large amount would be saved, and the supplies of our river improved.

But were the diseased fish caught and cured fifty per cent. could be saved, and certainly a great boon to the tenants paying so large rents, and an additional benefit to the public to have cheaper fish.

It is now believed by professionals that more should be killed with the nets later in the season, and then fewer fish will get up to the spawning ground, to kill one another and create disease, which is the real cause of so many dead fish seen.—I am, &c.,

Denham Green, Edinburgh, Dec. 24, 1883.

JOHN ANDERSON.

[Mr. Anderson does not say how he cures the fish—perhaps by Frank Buckland's salt process. If the fish can be cured and saved, it would certainly be worth trying on a large scale. Also the taking of ova from diseased fish is to be recommended *provided it is proved that this ova can produce healthy, strong fish*, and we think this is possible, because the *saprolegnia ferax* is an external parasite, and only attacks the fish in fresh water. It is not like a deep-rooted, though it is too often a fatal, disease.—ED.]

AN EARLY EDITION OF WALTON.

SIR,—Noticing in the *FISHING GAZETTE* Mr. Doveton's remarks and reference to the above in his possession, I have thought (in the hope of being enabled to fix the date of the first part) it would perhaps be well for me to mention that I have a counterpart in good condition of the very one Mr. Doveton has.

The title-page of the "Complete Angler," by "Iz. Wa.," is missing, and the part I have begins with a dedicatory epistle "To the Right Worshipful John Offley of Madely Manor," &c., and signed "Iz. Wa." Then another letter, "To the Reader of this Discourse, but especially to the honest Angler," ending with the word "Farewell" and the above signature. It is evidently a very old book of 240 pages, and contains illustrations of the trout, pike, carp, tench, perch and barbel. On page 211 I find written in ink in two places the date "1812." It also contains "The Angler's Song," words and music, "Cantos" on page 216, and "Bassus" on page 217, which is reversed top to bottom.

Bound with the above is and next comes the book referred to by Mr. Doveton, in which I may point out that Mr. Charles Cotton's letter to Mr. Izaak Walton the elder is addressed and dated as follows:—

Berisford, 10th

of March, 1676.

It is of 111 pages; and on the next page, which is not numbered, is the advertisement "Courteous Reader, you may be pleased to take notice," &c.

Along with and following is also bound "The Experienced Angler," by Col. Robert Venables. "The Fifth Edition, much enlarged.

London:

Printed by B. W. for B. Tooke, at The Ship, in St. Paul's Churchyard; and Thos. Sawbridge, at the Three Flower de Lucys, in Little Britain.

MDCLXXIII.

This book also terminates with a similar advertisement, but ends "By John Margrace," not Margrave.

If you can make anything interesting out of the above for your readers by

alteration and amendment place make some use of it; or if you would like to see the book, or rather the 3 books in one, I should be happy to forward it for the purpose of your inspection.

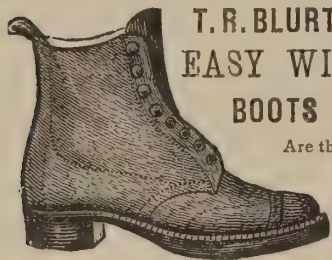
I have written this fully trusting you will be good enough and able to oblige me with the date of the first part of the "Complete Angler." Thanking you for your past kind attentions—I am, &c.,
SEVERN GRAYLING.
Shrewsbury.

P.S.—Last Monday in two hours I took 37 nice perch with the worm, about a mile below here. A friend also took a perch of 1½ lb., and another took a pike of 6 lbs, live bait fishing. River now in grand condition.

[The first edition of Walton was published by R. Marriott in May, 1653. Mr.

Manley, in his interesting "Notes on Fish and Fishing," says: "It was advertised by the 'Enterprising Publisher,' as books are now in the 'Daily Papers.' Thus the announcement ran in the *Perfect Diurnall*, from Monday, May 9th, to Monday, May 16, 1653: 'The Complete Angler, or the Contemplative Man's Recreation,' being a discourse of Fish and Fishing, not unworthy the perusal of most anglers, of 18 pence price, written by Iz. Wa. . . . printed for Richard Marriott, to be sold at his shop in Saint Dunstan's Church-yard, Fleet Street. It was similarly advertised at the same time in the *Mercurius Politicus*. A fac-simile of this edition was produced in 1810," and Mr. Eliot Stock has recently published another fac-simile reprint of it. A copy of the original in perfect condition is now worth about £40—ED]

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Communications relating to the Literary Department, Fishing Tackle for Notice, Books for Review, &c., must be addressed to the Editor of the FISHING GAZETTE, No. 12, Fetter Lane, London, E.C.
Contributions are solicited, but the Editor will not undertake to return rejected MSS. unless accompanied with a stamped addressed envelope.
Correspondents are requested to write on one side of the paper only, and give their real names and addresses, not necessarily as signatures to their letters, but as a guarantee of good faith. Unless this rule be adhered to, no notice will be taken of such communications.

THE FISHING GAZETTE is published every Saturday, and can be obtained at Messrs. W. H. Smith and Son's Railway Bookstalls, and of the principal Newsagents and Fishing Tackle Dealers in London and the Provinces.

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The Fishing Gazette.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 19, 1884.

PORTRAITS OF CELEBRITIES IN THE WORLD OF FISHING AND FISH CULTURE.

WE beg to inform our readers that it is our intention to publish in the GAZETTE a series of portraits of gentlemen well known to the angling world, with brief biographies. We have great pleasure in announcing that our first portrait will be an etching on copper of

EDWARD BIRKBECK, ESQ., M.P.,

from a photograph which Mr. Birkbeck very kindly had taken for the purpose. It will be printed separately, on plate paper. The execution has been entrusted to one of the first Paris houses, and we have every confidence in the result. Other portraits are also in hand.

HOW MR. JARDINE CATCHES HIS PIKE.

HAVING received several inquiries similar to those in our correspondence columns this week, as to how Mr. Jardine fishes for pike, we thought we would ask him to describe his own plan of paternostering in his own way, and he very kindly at once did so, and sent on the following reply by our messenger:—

"38, Old Change, E.C.,
July 16, 1883.

"DEAR MR. MARSTON,—Your description of paternostering is so correct that I don't think I can better explain the method. I use pear-shaped leads, from $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ oz., according to depth of water, the smaller weight for up to 6 feet depth, the heavier up to any depth, and my baits—lively dace—of from $4\frac{1}{2}$ to 5 inches in length. I hook them through the bottom and the top lips, beginning with the bottom one, because they live longer and work better, and I always use a sneak-bent hook, as it enables the bait to open its mouth and breathe, which it can't do so well on a round bent hook. My trace is of the best selected round salmon gut, stained a light claret colour. The weight is at the bottom of the trace, and the loop to which the hook on gimp is attached from 18 inches to 24 inches above the weight, according to depth of water, and whether the bed of river is weedy. This has been so mild a season that weeds have grown apace, and I loop on my bait well above them. For choice my hooks are bound on to copper gimp, of which Williams and Co. and Carter and Sons have excellent qualities, and know my sizes and descriptions of tackle, whether 'pater' or 'snap.' After baiting my 'pater' hook, I throw out, say, a distance of 15 yards. Let the bait sink to bottom, and quietly work it back, gathering the line up into the palm of my left hand, working all nooks and corners, gently lifting and dropping the point of my rod, and letting the bait rest a second or two in likely places here and there to entice any pike adjacent. Then throw out again to a different place—maybe 20 yards off—gather up line, and throw to some other place; but anyhow, by diligently searching the water all round, find any fish that may be near. Of course, it is necessary to keep a 'taut' line, so as to feel a 'knock' at once, and if an invitation to 'lunch or tea' occurs slack a little line, wait a quarter minute, gather up slack line, and drive the steel home by a steady draw rather than a sharp strike. If the pike runs, strike at once, whether 'paternostering' or 'snap-fishing.' But, as my experience went last week, they were very capricious, and fed most 'delicately,'

and never 'ran'; so I gave them about a quarter of a minute, used very small baits, and scarcely failed to strike and land each fish.

"Referring to Amwell's query, in 'paternostering' or 'snap,' you never allow the pike time to 'gorge'—the 'hungry fish' sometimes swallows the bait at once, if they 'run,' and then you may hook them in the throat.

"I hope I have made my description plain; but, anyhow, shall be very pleased to send 'Amwell' and 'A Coggeshall Volunteer' my 'paternoster' and 'snap' on a trace, just to show them what the tackle I use is like.

"I am going to-morrow on the war-path to some big water, where I know there are some 'big uns,' and hope to give you a record of satisfactory result for next week's FISHING GAZETTE; and I look forward to the pleasure of giving you, if you will be my companion, before this season terminates, a more successful 'raid' than you had with me nearly a year ago.

"Yours sincerely,

"A. G. JARDINE."

["Why, cert'nly," Mr. J., with the greatest pleasure.—ED.]

TROUT EGGS FROM GERMANY.

DR. ZENK, proprietor of the Seeweise Fish-Breeding Establishment, near Würzburg, Germany, surprised us the other day by sending us some hundreds of splendid lake trout eggs. The carrier deposited a small square deal box at our door, on opening it we found another smaller perforated box imbedded in damp moss; this being opened, disclosed more damp moss, beautifully cool, and in the midst of this, enveloped first in coarse wadding and then in fine muslin, was a nest of splendid eggs, with only a dozen or two of dead ones in the whole lot. The dead eggs, being white and opaque, are easily discerned by their contrast to the beautiful, translucent, orange-tinted eyed ova. We have improvised a hatching apparatus in the shape of a large earthenware pan with a V-shaped piece out of its side; and the eggs are now in this, with a stream of spring water trickling over them. Dr. Zenk has about eighty thousand more of these eggs, which he will pack in the manner we have described and send to any address in England, *carriage paid*, for the wonderfully low price of nine shillings per thousand. We can strongly advise any of our readers who would like to have lake trout eggs to get some from Dr. Zenk at once. His present offer only holds good for a few days longer. All the dead eggs should be carefully taken out, as the fungus which grows on them speedily spreads and kills the eggs lying near. We need hardly say the lake trout is a superb fish, and some placed in the little Darent a year or two ago have done very well indeed we are told.

PISCATORIAL SCRAPS.

By I. C. U.

"WHERE is 'I.C.U.'?" "Who is 'I.C.U.'?" "Why has he not written his Scraps these four weeks past?" are fair questions from my readers, as I had promised to give them my opinions on a variety of important subjects in which they are interested. Please be merciful and don't cross-examine me too closely or you will, or will not, be surprised to learn some of the domestic mysteries of a professional penny-a-liner's career. I have been for a change of air; yes, that's what it was. What humbug to preach that imprisonment for debt is abolished, when a judge can, and does, order you to pay what you cannot, and if you don't you are collared some fine morning just as you are sitting down to your day's work, and treated to twenty-eight days' change of air. That's who I am, where I've been, and why I didn't write.

I know of wind-bags needing pricking, shams requiring exposure and holes and corners here and there wanting a little daylight, and they all began to fear that "I.C.U." would bring the needful to bear, when, to their great relief, week after week went by and no scraps. Have I not seen—through the bars, of course—their angelic smiles, and heard their pleased whispers of congratulation at my decease. Dead, indeed! Why I never felt more alive! My enforced idleness was quite refreshing. Twenty-eight days—what an age! I must read myself up in what has happened.

I see Mr. Lark has been amongst us—let me say us—and his visit, which at one time looked uncommonly like a failure, has, thanks to the generosity of The Piscatorial, Silver Trout, and Gresham societies, the ever-ready purse of a few individuals, and the sound advice of the friend who persuaded him not to despair and return, but to remain and persevere, turned out a great success, as, in addition to the money already subscribed, other sums will follow from those who now realise the importance of the efforts being made to uphold our rights (I hope they are our rights) to fish the Norfolk waters. Bravo! ye "Piscatorials," I say bravo! not so much for what you have done and will do if necessary in this case, as for the spirit, very latent at times, with which you support every appeal that has the good fortune

to thoroughly wake you up. I also say Bravo! ye "Trouts" and Greshams for following the lead and showing that, although some clubs may not be able to give large sums, their duty is none the less clear to give, and give quickly.

What's this about Mr. Benningfield? Oh, it's really too-too. "I will give Mr. Lark five pounds if London club anglers, as a body, give 2d. per dozen to the fund." "Caught at last!" is my first thought. How often, friend B., have you offered to bet anything I liked that the London anglers would not do so-and-so, unless they were guaranteed twenty-five shillings in the pound? Yet, hard as you laid the lash on, you were not always wrong; but you are this time: so the fund will be five pounds the better for that slip of the tongue; indeed, I am not sure it won't be twenty or thirty. That Mr. Lark had the best wishes and a subscription from Mr. Benningfield comes as a matter of course to those who have the pleasure of that gentleman's acquaintance, and it strikes me as just possible that this joke of an extra five pounds was good-naturedly intended to assist in raising the wind.

Mr. Benningfield does not believe in the anglers as a body, although he has a great number of personal friends amongst them; neither does he care how loudly his unbelief is proclaimed. Now, notwithstanding this, I am a great believer in Mr. B., and if any one who may read this chances to suffer from a not uncommon complaint, I would advise him to consult Mr. B., who should be permitted to take a good hold of your collar, smooth you down the back with one or two of his neat compliments, and then you may wager that he won't loosen his hold until he has unburdened his mind in reference to your errors of omission and commission, your folly, vanity, and ignorance, and given you such a general reckoning up as will effect a cure, and enable you to make a fair estimate of what you are—which you will find to vary considerably from what you thought you were.

Mr. Benningfield's motto:—

"Whether I please or whether I tease,
I'll give you my honest mind;
If the cap fits, you can wear it a bit,
If not, you can leave it behind."

It's purely a waste of time to thrash a horse or an ass that's dead, or I would rush in to the aid of the "Anglers' Protection Corps" and our dear friend Parker, so effectually silenced by the Editor's pithy foot-note. Does not the reception given to "An Anglers' Parliament" and the "Anglers' Protection Corps" show how unprofitable it is to be endowed with a brilliant genius far in advance of the ignorant age in which you are compelled to live?

As I anticipated, the Conservators have decided against the proposed half-tidal weir and locks near Isleworth. I cannot help continuing to admire the Richmond and Twickenham committee's pluck, as they are evidently endowed with the proverbial Englishman's blind courage, and won't see when they are beaten. They have determined to appeal to Parliament, where they will labour under the disadvantage of fighting opponents who will be spending public money.

The Thames Angling Preservation Society have lost the services of their solicitor, Mr. Briggs, of Isleworth, who has retired on a competency, and Mr. Brougham might have been seen and heard, on Monday last, opening a case before the Staines bench against a man for the retention of undersized perch. I am told that Mr. Brougham deported himself in his new character with such coolness and deliberation as left nothing to be desired, except a Q.C.'s gown and wig. Verdict—Fined £1, and ros. costs.

I am looking for this week's FISHING GAZETTE with a healthy curiosity to learn what Mr. J. W. Knight, the secretary of the Henley Fishery Protection Society, may have further to say that is complimentary of us London anglers. He must be clever, indeed, if he can produce anything that will, almost mirror-like, reflect the minutest detail of the author's mind as clearly as did his effusion of Dec. 31st, published in THE GAZETTE of Jan. 5th.

I begin to have a fancy for myself. I am one of those, am I, who according to Mr. Knight, in their "entire get-up, conduct out, and appearance, are unmitigated roughs whom indiscriminating publicans have organised as elements in the promotion of trade"? We are nothing "but publicans' thralls," our clubs have "worked nothing but evil," we are of "these unsavoury hordes," &c., &c., &c.

Well, Mr. J. W. Knight, and what may you be? We can make a good guess what you are not.

It's not fair of Mr. P. Geen to take the wind out of my sails. I had promised to write about the New Thames By-laws;—yet I am not sorry, as he appears to have not only mastered them, but to have made acquaintance with the motives actuating the framers. His information respecting the tail-wag-dog policy of the Conservators throws considerable light on much that was very difficult to understand.

Will Mr. Geen explain to us our exact position in respect to the use of the cast-net, the retention of bait, and that very important question which he claims to have taken an interest in for so many years, the netting of the tidal waters. It will be in the recollection of many that at the Cannon Street Conference, a resolution was proposed by the delegates of the "Richmond Piscatorial Society," that all netting should be abolished, and if necessary the netsmen bought out. Mr. Geen urged that our interests would be best served by getting

the by-laws passed first, as, in his opinion, the position and rights of the netsmen would then not only be strictly defined, but also considerably curtailed.

The Keepers' Dinner at the "Station Hotel," Richmond, on the 18th inst., is likely to be a great success, as many members and friends of the T.A.P.S., have promised to attend. Let us hope friend Spreckley won't forget the usual half-pound of 'bacca for each man. It was quite a study to see the downcast looks of the men on a similar occasion when it was announced that it had been left in Cannon Street. Mr. Marston gave a briar-root pipe to each man last year, and I know they were greatly appreciated.

The "Westbourne Park Piscatorials" have their annual dinner on the 22nd. Some piscatorial notables have been invited, and have promised to be with them.

The "Good Intents," will have their dinner early in February. Mr. Murphy is very busy and is determined not only to see all his "boys," but a few friends as well.

Will they forget

I. C. U.

NORFOLK NOTES.

BY G. CHRISTOPHER DAVIES.

IN my last note I spoke of the custom of spinning or trailing as practised in Norfolk rivers, and it may not be amiss to mention some of the best reaches for this sport. It may be taken for granted that it is best to get above the reach of the salt tide. Although pike are caught at Cantley and Reedham, where the water is always quite brackish, and sometimes very salt indeed, yet the upper reaches, where the tidal influence is not so strong and the water is clearer, are more productive of sport. Thus, on the Yare it is best to keep above Buckenham Ferry, on the Bure above Acle, and on the Waveney above Somerleyton. The whole of the Thurne, from its junction with the Bure, is good, especially above Potter Heigham Bridge, where the water is clear, and there is fine harbourage for jack among the lily leaves. The river Ant is good in all parts, and from St. Benedict's Abbey up to Wroxham there is an abundance of good reaches. Horning Ferry is the best angling station on this part of the river. The Ferry Inn, kept by Thompson, is a capital hostelry, and an undoubted large pike has its haunt opposite the inn. The inn is too small to accommodate all who would stay there in the summer, and I have often suggested to Mr. Thompson that it would be a good thing either to build a shed with bunks for campers-out of the younger and bachelor class, or to transform a wherry or other large craft into a house-boat, which might be moored near the inn, and would afford comfortable sleeping accommodation for a good number.

In the winter season there is plenty of room indoors, and also out on the river, and Thompson might also be able to procure a little rough shooting—snipe and duck—for his visitors. As many as forty fair-sized jack have been taken by one boat in a day near Horning.

The mouths of the various dykes which connect the broads with the river are generally good places for pike where a live bait may be tried with advantage, and the reaches under the woods by Salhouse, opposite Hoveton broad, are very good also. In these reaches pater-nostering for pike is also very deadly at times. From here up to Wroxham is too well fished in the summer and autumn, but in the winter good sport may be had.

From Wroxham to Coltishall there are about eight miles of very sinuous river, which I believe to be good pike ground all the way. It is not so much fished as below Wroxham, but it contains plenty of jack. It might be fished in a day by commencing a mile or two above Wroxham, rowing up to Coltishall in the morning and back in the afternoon; but it would be better to take a day up, sleep at Coltishall, which is a pretty village, and fish back to Wroxham the next day. There would thus be no need to hurry, and good reaches could be rowed over twice. There is a lock just above Coltishall, and the river is much narrower. At Buxton, where there is also a lock, I have had some good sport. In fact, my first introduction to Norfolk pike-fishing was at Buxton. Here trailing behind a boat is not necessary, and spinning from the bank, which, to my mind, is pleasanter sport, is not only possible but preferable. The scenery all the way above Wroxham is quiet and pastoral in its character, but very pretty.

Going back to the Ant (for which Stalham would be headquarters), its upper waters above Barton broad form the North Walsham and Dilham Canal, which contains a good many pike, and is not over-fished.

Of the Waveney I have very little angling knowledge. I have fished in it below Beccles, and caught a few jack each time; but I only visit it once or twice a year, and then only fish when the wind fails. It is a deep, clear-running stream, and once bore a high reputation, but it was nearly ruined by the poaching which formerly went on; it is said to be now fast recovering itself. It looks extremely pikey all the way from the corner of Oulton Dyke to Beccles. What it is above Beccles I am unable to say.

In my next note I shall have something to say upon pike-fishing in the broads, which stands upon a different footing from the rivers, not only with reference to the moot points of public and private rights, upon which I do not intend to give any legal opinion gratis, but with respect to their physical characteristics.

G. C. D.

THE MANCHESTER ANGLERS' ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

THE annual general meeting of the Manchester Anglers' Association was held on Tuesday evening, the 8th inst., at the Grand Hotel, when Mr. E. G. Simpson was elected president for the year; Mr. G. S. Woolley, treasurer; Mr. Abel Heywood, jun., hon. sec.; and Messrs. R. Burn, George Davies, Charles Estcourt, Thomas Harker, John O. Mackenzie, David Reid, Rev. C. P. Roberts, and Mr. Joseph Thwaites the other members of the council.

The report of the outgoing council states that the full number of the association has been constantly maintained, and about twenty nominations have always been in the proposal book. The former president, Colonel Mawson, was honoured by being appointed one of the vice-presidents of the International Fisheries Exhibition as representing the Manchester Association, and one of the members, Mr. David Reid, had acted as a juror in an important department, where the awards made were not disputed. The treasurer's balance-sheet showed the funds to be in a satisfactory condition.

After the elections Mr. John Kincaid read a short paper on "The Delights and Worries of Salmon Fishing," as shown in a day's experience on a Scottish river. The paper gave a pleasant peep at some of the natural objects which few but anglers are permitted to see:—

"Wild fowl occasionally flap up the river with extraordinary speed; a cock pheasant starts up crowing his bold defiance as he flies to the opposite bank; the beautiful kingfisher shows at times below in a streak of lovely blue; a wood pigeon flashes past, closely pursued by a hawk; and as I pass through an open glade of Scotch firs I witness a combat between a heron on the one side and three or four corbies on the other, all on the wing, but low down, within a few feet of the ground. The heron was fighting against heavy odds, but defended himself bravely with both wing and beak against his assailants, although more than once the sound of a harsh squeak, following upon a sudden rush of a crow, told that the latter's bill had reached him in some tender part. The combatants took no notice of my approach until I came within some sixty or seventy yards of them, and they disappeared only as the tide of battle impelled them slowly into the forest."

The first success, and worry also, is thus described:—

"I was casting a long line in order to keep free of a large boulder of rock in the river when I rose and hooked a fish, the first feel of which sent an electric shock through me, and sent my heart beating like a steam hammer. Away he went with a rush across the stream, taking out some eighty yards of line, the water whisking from the silk and hair as from the bow of a fast steamer, then up and down, back and forward, sometimes doubling so rapidly that the line got bellied in the swift current before I could wind it in, and I felt myself in a dire strait. I whistled loud, then shouted, roared, and yelled for the keepers, but it was long before they heard any sound, and Gart only appeared in the distance at last, coming along with great composure, pipe in mouth, spectacles on nose, *Scotsman* in hand, wondering, as he afterwards said, if I had come to grief and had a ducking. Seeing how matters stood, he hurried down to my assistance, coming, however, 'minus the gaff.' Now, I take not only you and all my kith and kin, but the whole population of these parts to boot, to witness that a milder-mannered, gentleman than the writer of these lines does not exist. At the same time, I put it to you whether, in my position and under such circumstances, with a salmon pulling hard on one side and your keeper helplessly scratching his head on the other, you could have refrained from anthematizing the man and his whole generation? Admitting the hopelessness of trying to get the fish out by the hand, he hurried back for Neil and the gaff, leaving me once more alone with the salmon, which, so far from showing any signs of fagging, was as wild as ever, lashing the water into foam, or springing high into the air, and frightening me each time into the belief that he had got away. At last—though after an anxious interval—the men appeared with both gaff and landing-net, and I felt relieved. Taking advantage of a rush made towards our side, Neil got the net under him, raising the slack at the same time in order to drag him on shore; but the salmon, finding himself in fresh trouble, with a tremendous plunge broke through the net, and away again into deep currents, the hook, however, luckily still holding, the line, of course, running through the hoop of the net. 'Twere long to tell of the renewal of the fight, of the bold rushing of the fish, and of the excitement of playing him through the hoop which Neil bore high before me like a shield. It was only after something like an hour's play that we got him at last within reach of the gaff, and safely landed him on the grass. He proved a splendid salmon, fresh from the sea, with the tide lice still upon him, turning the scale at 32 lb. A finer fish never left the water, and he was the second largest that I have ever had the pleasure of landing."

POSITION OF ANGLING IN GERMANY.—We fear our German friends have not made much progress in what we in England consider "angling sport," judging from an article entitled "An. el Sport," in the Jan. 15 number of the *Deutsche Fischerei Zeitung*. This article occupies two columns, and is devoted to a minute description of how and when to use the "trimmer!"—an instrument which in this country is only used by the rankest poachers, or when it is necessary to destroy pike and get them out of a water.

GEORGE JAMES EATON, of Starkholme, Matlock-Bath, Derbyshire, respectfully invited Noblemen and Gentlemen to try his standard FLIES for the present season. No flies sent or made up but what he himself has proved sure killers. A trial is all that is required from gentlemen who can fish, to prove whether they may be genuine or not. Patronised by some of the best fishermen of the day. All flies dressed on the best Kendal hooks. Prices Point Flies, 2s. 6d. per Dozen; Dropper Flies, 2s. per Dozen. Orders punctually attended to.—(ADVT.)

CLUB AND OTHER JOTTINGS.

By L. B.

ON Monday evening, the 7th inst., the usual monthly meeting of the United London Anglers' Central Committee was held at the Bald-faced Stag Tavern, Worship Square, Finsbury, Mr. S. Morgan presiding.

After the reading and confirming of the minutes of the previous meeting—this being the first gathering of the committee for the present year of grace 1884—the Chairman greeted all present with "best wishes for a happy and prosperous new year," this kindly and seasonable greeting being heartily reciprocated by the whole room.

The Secretary (Mr. James Ghurney) then read a letter from Mr. James Lark, the secretary of the Great Yarmouth Piscatorial Society, earnestly appealing to this association and the London anglers generally for much-needed pecuniary assistance in carrying to the Court of Queen's Bench an appeal against the local magistrates' decision *re* Angling Rights on Heigham Sounds. Several gentlemen having expressed their views on the subject, it was finally proposed by Mr. Manning, seconded by Mr. Chambers, and unanimously carried,

"That the letter of the Secretary of the Great Yarmouth Piscatorial Society be acknowledged, and that the secretary be authorised to state that, though this committee morally sympathise with them, we are sorry we have no funds that can be applied to such a purpose, the preservation of our own more particular rivers requiring the whole of our income; at the same time, the committee recommend to individual societies the rendering of all pecuniary assistance in their power,"

Mr. Ghurney then announced the result of the recent summons against a poacher for illegally taking fish from the river Lea, in which a conviction was obtained (*vide* report in FISHING GAZETTE); and, upon a proposition by Mr. Medcalfe, seconded by Mr. Bunn, a sum of 10s. was voted to Mr. Verdon, the bailiff, through whose instrumentality the capture was made, and a like amount to the police-constable who assisted him on the occasion and afterwards gave evidence at Worship Street.

Some remarks having been made by Mr. Ghurney respecting the official inquiry as to the pollution of the river Lea at Tottenham, which Mr. Ghurney had attended, but the result of which is not yet known, and the sums of 10s. and 5s. voted to the waiter and postman respectively as Christmas-boxes, the half-yearly balance-sheets (May 7th to November 5th) were distributed. From these it transpires that the association had up to the latter date issued 1,025 privilege tickets, enrolled three new societies, paid for the better preservation of the river Lea exclusively £15 16s., and had still left by cash in hand and in Post Office Savings' Bank the handsome balance of £101 10s.

Mr. Manning then spoke at some length about the necessary amendment of the Anglers' Benevolent Rules, more particularly with a view to admission of representatives from the Central, or third association, and the election on the executive only of such as are themselves members of the society and represent members of the society, such election to take place only by the votes of members of the Anglers' Benevolent Society. Mr. Manning's views met with a favourable reception from the delegates present, and at the request of Mr. L. Bonvoisin, Mr. Manning has promised to be present at the next meeting of the West Central Association of London and Provincial Angling Societies, and to lay his views before that body and take an expression of opinion as to whether the said alterations in rules are needed, and, if so, how they may best be brought about.

The roll was then called by the Secretary, the following societies being represented:—West Central Angling Club, Alexandra, Hand-in-Hand, Sociable Brothers, Isaac Walton, Original Alexandra, West Ham, Stepney, Hoxton Brothers, Dalston, Great Northern Brothers, Cavendish, Metropolitan, Phoenix, Edmonton and Tottenham, and the Bermondsey Brothers; Lea bailiffs—Messrs. High, Bayley, Clark, and Williams; West Central Association—Messrs. Copeland, Field, and Bonvoisin.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman brought the meeting to a close.

From instruction cards just issued with anglers' privilege tickets, it appears that the six great railway companies, viz., Great Eastern, Midland, London and South-Western, Great Western, Great Northern, and London and North Western, grant among them anglers' cheap travelling tickets to over one hundred stations; also that the Fisheries Society rents, for the benefit of all holders of privilege cards, six stretches of water capable, if properly cared for, of affording some capital angling. These include portions of the Lea, Wey, Colne, and several stretches of the Grand Junction Canal, and, with one exception, are all within twenty miles from London; while, I believe, since the printing of these cards, another stretch has been rented, viz., the Lesser Lea, at Waltham. What do the grumblers say now? Do they still think they are not having value for their 1s.? Or will they in future cordially co-operate with those who have worked so hard to benefit them in spite of attempts to dishearten them by peevish and paltry grumbling and fault-finding?

Re the Hoole Testimonial, the committee are desirous to arrange for this presentation early in February, and secretaries and others who have collected moneys towards same will greatly oblige by remitting such to the hon. sec., Mr. L. Bonvoisin, 62, Swinton Street, Gray's Inn Road, as early as convenient.

[With the "handsome balance of £101 10s. still in hand," we trust that our appeal to the association for help on behalf of the Yarmouth Angling Society, who are fighting the rights of London anglers, will not be in vain.—ED.]

CLUB REPORTS.

ACTON PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

We fish for a leg of mutton supper on Thursday at Twickenham. There will be four punts, and we have engaged the Coxens—Messrs. Brooks and E. Eydmann with Mr. Coxen, Messrs. Cook and Howell with George, Messrs. W. Eydmann and Townsend with Jack, and Messrs. West and Simpson with Dick. The heaviest weight in one punt to be the winners. We have had some good takes of dace from the Thames this last month, Messrs. Howell, West, and Simpson showing in the most. I saw a splendid bream weighing over 3½ lb. taken with a minnow whilst paternostering for perch at Twickenham a few days ago, the water at the time being very bright. Is it not an uncommon thing for a bream to take a minnow?

C. SIMPSON, sec.

[Yes, it is uncommon.—ED.]

AMICABLE BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

On the 13th inst., Mr. Taylor, roach, 2 lb. 9 oz., dace, 1 lb. 14 oz.; Mr. Dwelley, roach, 3 lb. 8 oz.; Mr. Wicks, roach, 8 oz.—J. WOBBLEDGE.

ANCHOR AND HOPE ANGLING SOCIETY.

The members of the above club turned out rather numerously on the 13th inst., for five prizes, given by Messrs. Bates, T. Bowling, A. West, and Davis (roving go-where-you-please). Although several members returned with blanks, the competition at the weighing-in was rather keen, Mr. W. Hale and Mr. H. Scott being a dead-heat for first prize, Mr. Somers being a ¼ oz. under the dead-headers for third prize; Mr. Somers, jun., fourth; Mr. D. Liston, fifth. The following members also weighed in:—Messrs. Roker, Shortcliffe, Gardner, Harris, and Badcock. A roving match will take place on February 3rd—go-where-you-please—for three prizes.—D. DAVIS, sec.

BRIGHTON ANGLERS' SOCIETY.

We had a very nice muster on the 13th, when a visit was paid to the river Ouse, Barcombe and Isfield. Four prizes were offered, but only one taken, which was secured by Mr. W. Ollive, with a jack just upon 2 lbs. Mr. Geo. Saunders has won the Association Silver Medal, for best average weight of roach taken in Competitions, 1883. Other prizes for the year were taken as under:—"Go as you please," first, Mr. J. Ancombe; second, Mr. George Saunders; third, Mr. A. White. "General aggregate," Mr. H. Inman. "Specimen fish," Mr. G. F. Stapelton. Another competition will take place on the 28th. River now is in very good condition.—A. H. DOLTON, hon. sec.

CITY OF LONDON ANGLING SOCIETY.

The following members weighed in on the 13th:—Mr. Chambers, 2 lb. of roach, from Amberley; Mr. Castell a few fish from the Thames, at Wraysbury—roach, perch, and gudgeons; and Mr. Gentry, perch, from the Lea.—CAS.

CORBEN ANGLING SOCIETY.

At the weekly meeting of the members of the above society on Tuesday last, the balance-sheet for the past quarter was read. It was received with much satisfaction by those present, and a vote of thanks passed to the auditors. Owing to the flourishing state of the finances of the society, it was decided to have another club match before the season terminated. The sum of £3 was voted for that purpose, to be divided into five prizes. The match will take place at Uxbridge on the 27th inst.—C. REEVES, sec.

CROWN PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

Our return visit on the West Central list took place last Monday, our commodious club room being well filled with about 100 anglers and friends. Mr. Willcockson occupied the chair, faced by Messrs. Burwash and Fowler. Mr. G. Sibley presided at the piano. The following gentlemen contributed to some first-rate harmony:—Mr. W. H. Willcockson, the "Miller of the Dee," and "Man the Lifeboat"; Mr. Burwash, "Four Jolly Smiths"; Mr. Brockwell, "Sailing," and "My Sweetheart, when a Boy"; Mr. Fowler, "Irish Recruit," and "Pilgrim of Love"; Mr. H. Rimer, "The Bugler," and "Ehren on the Rhine"; Mr. Evans, "The Stowaway," and "Powder Monkey"; Mr. Donald Smith, "Tom Tough," and "Lively Polly"; Mr. Shorting, "Four Jolly Good Fellows"; Mr. W. Long, "Bryan O'Lynn"; Mr. Rust, "The Wolf"; Mr. C. Turner, "Down the Lane"; Mr. Tommy, "Fresh-Water Trip"; Mr. Hopkins, "Good Bye, Sweetheart"; Mr. Fitch, "Twenty-five Years Ago"; and Mr. Raymond, Reading from "Richard the Third." The roll being called by our secretary, the following clubs were represented:—The Amicable Waltonians, City of London, Convivial, Duke of Norfolk, Excelsior, North-Western, Odd and Even, Reform, St. John's, Sir Hugh Myddleton, Star, Westbourne Park, West Central, Eustonians, Original Clerkenwell Piscatorial, Independent Brothers, Clerkenwell Piscatorials, and the Great Northern Brothers. The next visit goes to the Duke of Norfolk, at the Ledbury Arms, Ledbury Road, Bayswater.—OLD NIGGER.

P.S.—I am instructed by the members of the Crown Piscatorials to thank those gentlemen who kindly supported us on this occasion, and that we shall be happy to return the compliment at any future time, providing it is within reasonable distance.

DALSTON ANGLING SOCIETY.

On the 13th, we had a very good show of roach and perch. On January 28, a smoking concert will take place at the above society, in aid of the funds of the Anglers' Benevolent Society. Mr. Midson in the chair.—S. MALBY, sec.

GOLDEN BARREL ANGLING SOCIETY.

The Upper Thames supplied the members of the society with some very good sport on the 13th. Mr. Henrie led the way with roach, dace, and perch, followed up by Messrs. J. Green, Allen, Stanton, and Crow, with roach, perch, dace, and bream.—PIXIE.

GREAT NORTHERN BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

We had a good show of fish on the 13th inst., from the Thames. Mr. C. Warren, two fine jack, weighing respectively 11 lb. and 6½ lb.; the heaviest has been sent to Mr. Gibson, of Richmond Grove, Barnsbury, to be preserved. F. Watling, 10 lb., nice roach; Messrs. Armstrong, Cowper, King, and R. Hill also had roach and some fine dace, from Watford; Messrs. Young and Baker, roach, from the Rye House; Mr. G. Watling, 6 lb. 11 oz., dace, eub, and roach, one dace, ½ lb.; Mr. Theobald, roach, from the Welsh Harp; Mr. Watley, one jack, 4 lb. 2 oz., from the waters; Messrs. J. Fitch and J. R. Fitch, roach and dace, 3 lb. 11 oz., one dace ½ lb. Our Eastern District visit took place on Wednesday, January 16th; chairman, Mr. J. Fitch; vice, Mr.

C. Watling. A large number of anglers attended, and a very pleasant evening was spent. The following gentlemen contributed towards the evening's amusement:—Messrs. J. Fitch, C. Watling, F. Watling, J. Jennings, J. Dingley, E. Elton (Reading), Moore, Clarke, Young, and Messrs. W. Watling and friend, who gave a very amusing Irish character sketch, which was greatly applauded. The next visit will be paid to the Eustonian Angling Society.—J. FITCH, sec.

GREAT YARMOUTH PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

At the meeting of the above society on Friday great satisfaction was felt for the cordial welcome and assistance given to me by the London anglers, and especially that of the two first gentlemen on the list of subscribers; but there was a little error in the names—one should be Fennings and the other Nichoray, likewise the total from the Silver Trout Society was £2 2s. 6d. Since then the Central Association has given £3 3s., and the South London 10s. 6d.; also Mr. Mariott, of No. 37, Judd Street, 5s.; also from the Great Northern Brothers 5s.; and I have no doubt that other subscriptions I shall have the pleasure of acknowledging in your next issue.—JAMES LARK, sec.

GRESHAM ANGLING SOCIETY.

The ordinary weekly meeting of the above society was held on Tuesday evening, Mr. Godwin (hon. solicitor) in the chair. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, and Mr. H. C. Seyfang was unanimously elected a member of the society. Mr. Rippin proposed, and Mr. Bentley seconded, Mr. W. J. Downing for membership; and the ballot was fixed for the 29th instant. Mr. Downing and several other visitors were present, and two very fine jack, both caught in the society's new fishery, were shown. Mr. Grimes exhibited a splendid fish, taken on Saturday, and weighing 12 lb.; but was outdone by Mr. Downing, with a perfect specimen, scaling 14½ lb. Several members, including the chairman, have visited the new water during the past week, and all gave most favourable reports, both as to the opportunity for sport, and the comfortable quarters to be obtained there. The old water rented by the society having now passed into the possession of the Fisheries' Society, it was decided, on the motion of Captain Alfred, seconded by Mr. Crumplen, to present that society with the notice-boards, implements, &c., belonging to the Gresham, a gift which was gratefully acknowledged by Mr. Ghurney. Mr. Crumplen pointed out the great success which had attended Mr. Lark's personal appeal for the assistance of London anglers on behalf of their Yarmouth brethren, to enable the question of the rights of fishing in Heigham Sounds to be thoroughly fought out, expressing the hope, almost amounting to conviction, that the matter would also now receive the assistance of the whole of the associations. The concluding business was to decide upon the terms of a roach competition, which is to take place on the 29th instant. These having been unanimously agreed upon, the secretary was instructed to furnish each member with a notice of them. A vote of thanks to Mr. Godwin for his services in the chair, closed the business portion of the evening; and Mr. Crumplen having been installed in his stead, a very pleasant evening was brought to a close with some excellent music, to which several of the visitors most ably contributed.—H.

HOXTON BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

Several members were out on the 13th inst., but with very little result. Mr. W. High had between 3 lb. and 4 lb. of roach. At the Rye House the roach had been well on for several days, but the sudden change on Friday last has thrown them off again, very few being taken since. The members will fish for a series of prizes on the 27th inst., the water to be selected on the 17th inst.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

INDEPENDENT BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

A very pretty show of fish was placed in our trays on the 13th inst., consisting of roach, dace, gudgeon and perch, by Messrs. Clark, Wilson, sen., Leader and Coomes. Mr. A. Anthony, on the previous Friday had 35 lb. of handsome roach from Littleport, some scaling 1½ lb. each.

P.S.—We beg to inform all secretaries and brother anglers that we move to new quarters on Tuesday, the 22nd inst.—the Bird-in-Hand, Long Acre—(Host, Mr. Waldeck), where we shall be most happy to see those who will pay us a visit. We also take our return visit on Tuesday, the 29th, when we hope friends will come and give us a bumper on that occasion.—H. MOORE, sec.

IZAAK WALTON ANGLING SOCIETY.

Four special prizes will be fished for on the 20th inst., members to choose their own fishing water, nothing under 8 oz. to take a prize. Messrs. H. Butt and G. Bliss won the two special prizes on the 13th inst., which were competed for in the Forty Guinea water.—H. B.

LINCOLN ANGLING SOCIETY.

Our members went out on the 13th, the result being one nice jack and a very pretty tray of roach and dace. They also went out on the 16th, and brought home a very nice show of roach and some dace of very good weight.—F. W. TODD, sec. pro tem.

MORTLAKE PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

This society held its second meeting at the Queen's Head Hotel on Tuesday last, with a good attendance. A cordial vote of thanks was passed to Mr. G. Eydeman for his kindness in presenting to the society a very handsome ebony and gold board, bearing the name of the society. After the business of the evening was finished, the piscators proved they could not only catch fish, but could greatly contribute to an evening's entertainment by some capital singing. On Wednesday next they hold a Smoking Concert in the handsome club room, when they will be pleased to meet any gentlemen and friends.

[Report should reach us earlier.—ED.]

ORIGINAL CLERKENWELL PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

The following members weighed in the 13th inst.:—Mr. Craffard, roach and dace, 3 lb. 8 oz.; one chub, 2 lb. 7½ oz. Messrs. Richardson and Obbard, roach. Mr. Richardson, wins Mr. Laundry's prize for December; also Mr. Craffard's prize, largest roach, for the 13th of January.—J. OBBARD, sec.

PECKHAM BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

The match fished on the 13th inst., for prizes given by Messrs. Durant, Neale, Duke, Halsey, Hancock, and Lang, resulted as follows:—C. White took the first with roach from West Drayton, the largest 1 lb. 11 oz.; Tommy Kemp (the Peckham Brothers' "poet") second, with fish from Hampton; W. Phipps third, with perch from the Lea; Messrs. Page and Stidolph ran a dead-

heat for fourth, so they divided; the "Baby" was fifth, and Fred. Turner sixth. The next match for the President's Cup take place on the 20th, at Staines, from the Bridge round Penton Hook—one rod only. The train leaves Vauxhall at 8 25 a.m. The members of the Peckham Brothers' Angling Society will fish a match at the "Fleet," Wraybury, on the 27th.—GAD-FLY.

PHENIX ANGLING SOCIETY.

The holidays now being over, our members are again busy luring the bright-eyed beauties from their natural home. Young Bartrip's face beamed with delight when amongst his lot one scaled the pound. Messrs. Read, Packer, Slater, the brothers Ashley, Pritchard, and Miton all showed how happy they had been whilst capturing a few nice roach and dace; but all eyes beamed with delight when Joe Reen's bag appeared, and be unfolded to our gaze 10 lb. of beautiful roach. Where do you find them, Joe? Look out, Champion, or you will get knocked out.—W. E.

PORTSMOUTH WALTONIAN ANGLING SOCIETY.

There has been very little angling news to record in connection with the above society for the past few weeks, the weather being not calculated to induce any of the ardent spirits to get out—only one solitary instance, Captain Hill, who took a couple of small jack in the Rother at Salem. On the last club night Mr. Harry Lane read his paper, the subject "The Opening of Museums and Art Galleries on Sunday." The paper was listened to with a deal of interest, and a most cordial vote of thanks was accorded him at the conclusion. The next paper will be on the 17th, on "Nocturnal Fishing," which will be read by Mr. E. Hollenders. On Thursday last the club gave their first smoking concert, and it was a most brilliant success, proving that a large number of members were equally as good at harmony as with the rod. Some capital songs and recitations were rendered during the evening by Messrs. Hughes, Coles, Buck, Lane, Proctor, Adams, Eastern, and others. Mr. J. S. Dyer officiated as chairman. There were over fifty members and friends present.—DAGGERWOOD.

QUEEN'S ANGLING SOCIETY.

Very few fish were weighed in on the 13th inst. Mr. Bedford had 2 lb. of roach; Mr. A. Chick, 1 lb. 4½ oz. of roach; Mr. Pease, 1 lb. of roach; Mr. Morgan had a few nice dace; Mr. Pratt, while plumming the depth, had a perch of 9 oz. take his plummet, which he landed.—L. WALFORD.

RODNEY PISCATORIALS.

On the 13th, Mr. Grant fished off a point near Shepperton, and managed to get one bream about 4 lbs. It was a very handsome fish, and has been sent to Mr. D. Millar, of East-street, Walworth, to preserve. On the 20th we all fish for prizes, between Shepperton and Chertsey Bridge; train leaves Waterloo Station at 8 o'clock on the 20th. Members are requested to bear that in mind.—PIXIE.

ROYAL BERKS SEED ESTABLISHMENT ANGLING ASSOCIATION.

The fourth annual prize distribution of the Royal Berks Seed Establishment Angling Association, took place on Monday evening last in the Abbey Hall. The chairman Mr. Joseph Adey (chosen by the members present) briefly reviewed the various matters of interest of the past season, congratulating all on the hearty interest taken in club matters, and the keen competition that had resulted. The presentation of prizes was then proceeded with, the awards being to Messrs. J. Holdway, J. Adey, H. D. Jones, D. Cooper, F. Squire, W. Goseltine, R. Bowcher, A. Austin, G. Critcher, H. Tomkins, H. Swain, and G. Hamblin. As usual, the awards were almost exclusively for finest individual specimens, among which may be mentioned a fine trout taken by J. Holdway, which has been preserved and placed in the library of the firm. The thanks of the meeting were heartily accorded to the Messrs. Sutton for their continued support and interest in the Association. Some remarks by the members, and votes of thanks to the hon. sec. (Mr. F. Squire), and the chairman, terminated the meeting.

SOUTH-EASTERN ANGLING SOCIETY.

The old veterans were out again on the 13th inst.—at Egham this time—and were among the finny tribe, having a fine show of jack and roach, something like 20 lb. of the former and 5 lb. of the latter. There was a good attendance of members and some half-dozen at our weigh in, same date. On Wednesday there were present a good average of members. Glad tidings from the West Central Association as regards the old score, settled at last by the party at fault—which was very welcome news, from our old friend, Mr. Leo Bonvoisin; and three ringing cheers were given for the same. There is one more important item to be settled, and then we are in the stirrups again—Glory! A match comes off on the 27th inst., of which you may hear further. Amalgamation proposed.—F. H. H. WESTON, sec.

SOUTH-LONDON ANGLING SOCIETY.

The result of our last outing to Sawbridgeworth was as follows:—1st prize of 15s. was won by Mr. Sergeant, with 1 lb. 11½ oz. of fish. The donors on this occasion were: Mr. Gearing, 10s. 6d.; Mr. Delehage, 10s. 6d.; and club, 10s. The day was fine, but very stormy and cold. We have three jack prizes for the heaviest weight caught during the month. 1st. prize of £1 1s. given by Mr. Frost, jun.; 2nd prize of 10s. 6d., given by Mr. Buck; 3rd prize of 10s. 6d. given by Mr. Fovargue. So far the result is almost nil, and members intending to compete should make a start. We have also a prize of 10s. 6d. for the heaviest weight of chub, given by Mr. Sargeant. This society has contributed 10s. 6d. to the Heigham Sound Defence Fund, and heartily hope the result may be to the advantage of the angling interests.—KRWAN, sec.

STANLEY ANGLERS' SOCIETY.

We have had two handsome shows of fish from the Thames since last week's report. On Saturday Mr. Wheatstone weighed 52 roach, weighing 22 lb. 14 oz. (heaviest fish 1 lb.), and some dace. On Monday night Mr. W. R. Humby brought in 104 roach, scaling 45 lb. 15 oz. (a very level lot of fish indeed), also dace. I beg to remind members that next Wednesday evening, being a special night, their presence is very much to be desired.—G. E. W.

UNITED LONDON FISHERIES SOCIETY.

I have great pleasure to announce that the Gresham Angling Society have in the most generous manner presented the Fisheries Society with the whole of their effects in connection with the Waltham Fishery, and have lent their field glasses to be used by our keeper, Mr. J. Lane, of Waltham.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

WALWORTH WALTONIANS.

The competition for the 24th is to be an open one, private waters barred.

Messrs. Weatherhead and Russell visited Bedford to-day (17th) and succeeded in getting a nice show of roach and jack, gross weight about 22 lb.—PIXIE.

WELLINGTON ANGLING SOCIETY.

General meeting held for re-election of officer, and other business. The last report having been presented, together with summary for the season, from the auditors, and accepted by the members, showing from May 30th to Dec. 31st. a gain of 28 members, and accumulation of funds and stock to the value of £13 os. 7½d., the accounts were passed in due form. Election next proceeded with: Mr. H. Hills, chairman; Mr. H. Lockett, vice-chairman. on retiring from the chair; Mr. W. W. Alexander, secretary. Messrs. J. T. Harris, C. Wright, W. Palmer, R. Perrott, G. Furlong, R. Richardson, and F. Wear, committee; Mr. Furlong appointed waiter; Mr. Wright, door-keeper. It was proposed by Mr. Wright, seconded by Mr. Harris, "That a cordial vote of thanks be recorded on the book to Mr. Palmer, late secretary, for his past services, he having to retire owing to prolonged absence in the Provinces," and carried unanimously. Delegates appointed to represent the society at West Central Association, Messrs. Lockett and Palmer.—W. PALMER, retiring sec.

WEST GREEN ANGLING SOCIETY.

The first supper in connection with the above society took place on the 9th inst. There was a good attendance of members and friends. A very convivial evening was spent, keeping it up until the small hours, when the following prizes were announced:—Mr. Elder, 10s. 6d., to be fished for on Feb. 3rd, all fish to weigh, bar jack, in any public water; Mr. C. Coleman's prize for carpeting on the same date, for jack only, go where you please; Mr. A. Coleman's prize for all fish, bar jack, go where you please, on the same date; Mr. Guyver, 10s., for the first specimen fish, bar jack, for the 10th of Feb., and until taken, go where you please.—J. GUYVER, sec.

WORCESTER ANGLING CLUBS.

The members of the different clubs are all united upon this subject, or rather opinion, that the Severn and Temes has never been so well stocked with fish as they are now. This applies to salmon, trout, and grayling. The takes of grayling have been good during the Christmas, and the water is in fine order for fly-fishing now. The following takes have come under my notice:—Mr. M. Pirkes, 5 brace of grayling and 27 dace, in all, about 17 lb; Mr. E. Davis, 8 brace of grayling; Mr. B. Smith, about the same quantity; J. A. Griffin, 2½ brace of grayling. There was taken with the long tackle, by Mr. Alfred Langford, 20 chub, near 1 lb. each, first day; next, 17, about the same size; the third day, nearly as many as on the two previous days. One of the old chub fishers has passed from amongst us, and is buried this day. Mr. Silas Andrews has many a time taken over 30 lb. of chub before he broke his fast.—J. A. GRIFFIN.

MESSRS. SPRECKLEY, WHITE, AND LEWIS.

A COMPLIMENTARY dinner and dance, in connection with marriages in the families of Messrs. Spreckley, White, and Lewis, of 13, Cannon Street, took place at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen Street, on Wednesday evening last. The dinner was one of a *recherché* character, and was presided over by Mr. Thomas Spreckley, President of the Thames Angling Preservation Society, and head of the Cannon Street firm. The guests on this interesting occasion numbered 210, and included the staff of the establishment and personal friends of the firm. Mr. Spreckley, in proposing "The Healths of the Brides and Bridegrooms," referred to the happy occasion which had united, if possible, more firmly together the members of his firm; and then, as is usual with him, gave one practical and appropriate thought for consideration—a principle that should ever be adopted by all young men on entering the ordinary duties of life—that of honesty, integrity, industry, and a determination to do right. His remarks, which were altogether practical, were listened to with deep attention, and were frequently loudly applauded. Mr. White, the son-in-law of Mr. W. D. Lewis, one of the bridegrooms, very gracefully replied. The only other toast was that of "The Firm of Messrs. Spreckley, White, and Lewis," which was proposed in an eloquent speech by Mr. Sedgwick, in the course of which he referred to the fortunate character of the Cannon Street House, from the packing-room to the counting-house, every department indoors and out of doors being conducted in the most business-like manner, and the firm being one of the best in London for their kind and liberal treatment to all in their employ. The toast was replied to by Mr. Spreckley, Mr. White, and Mr. W. D. Lewis, and the unmistakable ovations which greeted each during the evening can never be forgotten. The dancing commenced about nine o'clock, and was kept up with great spirit, Mr. T. F. Spreckley being M.C. All the arrangements were thoroughly perfect, and the stewards carried out their duties in an able and efficient manner. The stewards were Messrs. T. F. Spreckley, W. R. Spreckley, G. White, W. L. Lewis, W. T. Cosier, J. E. Corby, D. J. Bryden, C. W. Leach, S. Sedgwick, and A. Palmer.

ANGLING PROSPECTS ON TWEED AND TEVIOT.

The anglers in the district of Kelso and neighbourhood—ever on the alert as to the state of rivers and condition of fish—have just now a very fair prospect for the coming campaign. Salmon angling opens on the above rivers on February 1, and the nets come into force on the 14th. The very exceptional open winter season that we have had must have told immensely on the forward condition of trout, and, should the elements continue propitious, trouting should be very favourable during the month of March, and by the end of that usually gusty month should have become pretty general; but, of course, everything depends on fine, genial, open weather. Of salmon—well, we can speak pretty hopefully. The disease has been pretty bad in some quarters, but not exceedingly so in this neighbourhood, although a good many of the most affected have been taken out of both rivers by the water bailiffs and buried. On the whole, however, the open weather has been most beneficial to the salmon tribe as well as to the trout, and the floods we have had have done much good also. The hopes which have been entertained by those residing on the banks of the rivers are that a good fishing season is in store, and we only trust that these expectations may be fully realised.—MAXWHEEL, Kelso.

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RIVER REPORTS.

TIME OF HIGH WATER IN THE THAMES.

To find the time of high water in the Thames at any of the following places, to the time of high water at London Bridge (given below).

	30 minutes for Chelsea.
Add	40 " Putney.
	45 " Hammersmith.
	50 " Barnes.
	55 " Kew.
	75 " Richmond.
	80 " Twickenham.
	85 " Teddington.

Example :—If it is high water at 2 o'clock at London Bridge, it will be high water at Teddington about 3.25, or eighty-five minutes later; but it must be remembered that a strong wind accelerates or retards the tide very much.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.

		Morning.	Afternoon.
For Saturday, January 19	.. ..	6.10	6.29
Sunday, " 20	.. ..	6.49	7.12
Monday, " 21	.. ..	7.35	8.2
Tuesday, " 22	.. ..	8.32	9.7
Wednesday, " 23	.. ..	9.47	10.28
Thursday, " 24	.. ..	11.6	11.39
Friday, " 25	.. ..	12.0	12.10

THE LOWER THAMES.

GENERAL REMARKS.

Although the angling reports in this portion of the "city waters" contain the capture of jack of 5, 7, 8, and 13 lb. each, there have been very few anglers out, and in some of the fishing stations there has been no business at all. The report

of large barbel having been taken at Teddington Weir has been satisfactorily confirmed. The fishing at Staines is looking up, and amongst the roach some very fine ones have been taken, the jack also have been well represented. Edward Brown has been somewhat suddenly removed from the roll of Thames Fishermen at Richmond; his death will be regretted by some of his patrons.

Richmond.

Christopher Brown, in one day, 7 lb. of roach; Henry Wheeler, in three days, 33 lb. of roach and dace; Job Brain, in two days, 23 lb; Henry Howard, in two days, fifteen dozen of dace, and Henry Mansell, in one day, nine dozen of roach and dace.

BANK ANGLING.—The following takes of fish have been registered at The Jolly Anglers :—Mr. Bugler, 6½ lb.; Mr. Davis, 5 lb.; Mr. Grey, four dozen Mr. Webber, 5 lb.; Mr. Sargent, 3 lb.; Mr. Martin, 2 lb.; Mr. Jenner, 2½ lb.; Mr. Gibbons, 7 lb.; Mr. Skelton, 6 lb., and Mr. Hall, 2½ dozen.

Twickenham.

Richard Coxen, in five days, 53 lb. weight of roach and dace; John Coxen, jun., in one day, six dozen of dace; George Coxen, in five days, forty dozen of dace, and another day with four rods, 38 lb. 14 oz. of dace. John Spong, in two days, six dozen of roach and dace; Pert Hammerton, in one day, 8 lb. of roach. A. Turner, in one day, eight dozen of dace; and Mr. W. Beard, with George Chamberlain, during the week, 520 good dace.

Water in good condition, and tides suit for a good day's fishing. Messrs. White and Godfrey, on Thursday, took 20 lb. of good roach and dace, with Jack Spong; and, two other days, seventeen dozen of good fish, which will be weighed in at the Brentford Piscatorials this evening.—WM. WALKER.

Teddington.

Mr. Drummond, with James Kemp, on Tuesday last, one fine barbel, weighing 9 lb. 15 oz., in splendid condition. Benjamin Stevens, in three days, eight barbel, the largest 4 lb.

Kingston.

John Johnson, sen., in four hours, 2½ dozen of dace. Angling has been very dull of late in this district, but the bank anglers here and at Hampton Court and Sunbury, have done very well. It would be a good thing if some of the riverside houses, like the Jolly Anglers, at Richmond, would register some of the takes of fish that have been made by the bank anglers.

East Moulsey.

Thomas Wheeler, in two days, 40 lb. weight of barbel, the largest of 8½ lb., and four brace of perch, and Charles Davis, one jack of 8 lb.

Sunbury.

Messrs. Edward Clarke and sons, in one day, five dozen of roach, the largest 1½ lb. and seven perch.

Walton.

George Hone, one day, a jack of 3 lb., and another day, with Mr. Hickley, one of 8 lb. Three of the bank anglers have landed a fish each of the respective weights of 8½, 7½, and 2 lb.

The water is getting in good condition for jack or perch-fishing now. Several jack have been taken from the bank, the largest 8 lb. G. Hone, sen., one day, with a gentleman, a jack about 8 lb.; another day, four bream and two chub.—S. ROSEWELL.

Docket Point.

Very little to report this week, owing to the absence of anglers. Out on the 13th, two bream, one perch, and roach—ledgering. Water settled down, and everything one could wish for fishing. River quiet, and weather could not be better. The wonder is, where are the anglers. Close time is creeping on fast. Last season we were flooded out. Did not expect to do anything. This season is quite as bad as regards fishermen's income in this neighbourhood. Let us hope some anglers will take heart and try old Father Thames once more. I don't think they will have any reason to grumble.—JAMES HA-LETT.

Staines.

Charles Hone, in one day, a fine jack of 13 lb., and another of 7 lb. John Keene, sen., in one day, four chub, weighing 12 lb., and another day, twenty-one fine roach, one weighing 1 lb. 9 oz., and another, 1 lb. 2 oz. J. Keene, in one day, eight dozen of roach and dace, the largest roach 1 lb. 9 oz., and another day, six dozen.

Datchet.

The water has got to its original level again, but the fish persistently refuse to feed. On the 14th, with a patron, I caught 15 lb. of roach, very fine ones, and a chub of 4 lb. J. Hoare, on the same day, took three dozen of roach, and on the 17th, two dozen. Nothing but a bit of frost will make the jack and perch feed. The large jack I mentioned previously was purchased by Mr. King, of the Royal Oak, South Western Station, to be set up with some others he has got. Many have been the lamentations that he was not caught with rod and line, but I learn he had parted acquaintance with a good few anglers. Now, I know the abode of one or two fine jack, but all my solicitations have been in vain. A favoured individual the other day had one of them on, but he left him to quarrel with the buggs for the possession of his tackle.—G. LUMSDEN.

Mortlake.

In one day, Mr. J. Baylis, five dozen of dace and two fine roach, one weighing over 1 lb. and the other 14 oz.

UPPER THAMES.

The river continues very high, and shows indications of having snow therein. Roach and perch are not biting freely, and jack do not seem to be feeding as freely as could be desired. Day by day the condition of the river is improving for angling purposes, and capital sport may be anticipated during the next week or so—that is, if no "elementary" change upsets my prognosis. At Bray and Maidenhead some excellent takes of roach and chub have been had, and the same may be said of Marlow, the best take of roach at this latter place scaling 11 lb., and had by a banker. At Hurley, Mr. Brooksbank and Mr. Hockley have been on the roach and jack trail with fair success, and at Medmenham on Saturday Bob Young, with a patron, showed up five jack (best 6 lb.), one chub of 6 lb., and some 10 lb. of grand roach. My Henley and Maple-Durham correspondents tell of fair catches of chub and roach, all had with tail of lob.

Thursday evening.—Have interviewed Father Thames this afternoon, and am pleased to report that he is in excellent condition, tone and colour being

everything to be desired, and appetite—well, a mash of bran and bread and carrion gentles will only appease it.—MARLOW BUZZ.

Monkey Island.

Fishing has not been so good this last week; there have been a few takes of roach and a few very good perch. Jack have not been on the feed well, I think owing to the storm last week. I think there must have been a great deal of hail and snow in the water. The water to-day (Thursday) is in fine condition for all-round fishing. Perch are getting very forward in spawn, trout are showing themselves more than usual at this time of the year. We have several heavy fish within a few hundred yards of the Island, and which I hope may give some gentlemen good sport on the opening day.—R. PLUMMER, sen.

Cookham.

Fishing with two gentlemen on Tuesday last in the afternoon for two or three hours, took a very nice basket of roach, 14 lb. On Wednesday, while fishing with a gentleman from Mr. Worley's, the Bell and Dragon, caught three jack, one 7 lb., another one 6 lb., the other 1½ lb. The one of 7 lb. was a very handsome fish. To-day (Thursday), out with two gentlemen from the Bell and Dragon, caught eleven dozen of very fine roach, weight over 30 lb., and one jack of 3 lb. Water in grand condition for all-round fishing. Fishing is looking more like the olden times. There are prospects of good sport.—E. GODDEN.

Eynsham.

Angling this last week has been quite a success in this neighbourhood. Roach, perch and chub biting freely, the former two at red worms, the latter at pith. One of our local anglers on Tuesday caught 10 lb. roach, the largest 1½ lb., and on Wednesday he took with other fish four perch, weighing 5½ lb., the heaviest, 2 lb. 7 oz. This I have sent to Mr. Carters to be set up. To-day I have been chubbing; caught nine, weight 12½ lb., largest 2½ lb. Should the present weather continue, the fish are sure to feed well.—W. B. HOWE.

Goring.

Water now in good order for all-round fishing; have been taking a few jack and perch, but not very large; best day, two brace of jack and four brace of perch, all sizeable.—JOHN RUSH.

Oxford.

During the past week several good fish have been captured, chiefly in the Eynsham water, where, strange to say, the greater part of the Christmas sport has been obtained. The returns from the lower river, to my fancy far superior in appearance, are poor, and scarcely worth the trouble of chronicling. A splendid fish of 13 lb. was taken below Eynsham by a gentleman in a boat, but, unfortunately, I cannot give the date and captor's name, though I can rely on my informant's veracity; and another of 12½ lb. was had from the Bolscott stream on Sunday, when several good bags, comprising fish of 3 and 4 lb., were made by the various anglers on the banks. Higher up, above King's Weir, Mr. Gellingham had one of 3½ lb.; and in the Pixie reach Mr. Boscott and a friend bagged two brace, weighing 4 lb., 2½ lb., 1½ lb., and 5½ lb. respectively. In Lord Abingdon's private waters, three gentlemen, whose innate bashfulness (and we all feel that way at times) prevented their asking permission of that fine old specimen of the riparian persecutor, managed to take three jack going 5 lb., 4 lb., and 2 lb. On Tuesday, at Bablock Hythe, Mr. Tell landed a fourteen-pounder, and also picked up the remains of another, which he estimates at 20 lb., which had been stranded in a thick bed of weeds and left to die by the receding water. I was shown the jaws of both fish, and certainly they were a very fine pair; the teeth, with which they literally bristled, were at least an inch in length. On Tuesday, at Wolvercote, Mr. Mundy had a brace and a-half, going 3½ lb., 2 lb., and 1½ lb.; and Mr. Watts, in the same water, one of 1½ lb., and two nice perch. I have omitted to mention, in the hurry of writing the capture, on Friday, by Mr. Coodle, of two fine roach, weighing 1 lb., and four good perch.—MEDLEY TROUT.

Ancholme District.

Magnificent weather has prevailed all the week, and the water remains in unexceptionable trim for bottom fishing. Roach have continued to feed well, and good baskets have been the rule. Pike are as yet almost *non est*, and will probably remain quiescent so long as King Frost keeps beyond the Arctic circle. The weather prophets are, as usual, quite at sea. The glorious sunsets and sunrises were to usher in all manner of calamities, whereas yesterday the day was more like June than January, and trout were rising all day at the Manor Fishery. I have already seen sundry specimens of the early aquatic flies, while some of the late trout have hardly left the spawning beds. I hope shortly to send particulars of the New River Head Fishery, which will shortly be opened in this neighbourhood. I opine anglers will there get better catches than in the Ancholme proper.—THOMAS FORD, Caistor.

Avon (Binton, Bidford &c).

Wind, weather, and water are all at present in an abnormal condition, and I think, I may add, the fish also—a fact not at all surprising under the above-named circumstances. No species of fish appear to suffer hunger; or if they do, have some way of appeasing it without being tempted to take the angler's lure, for I have heard of nothing been caught except a few pike, and these of small weight. The water is, for this time of year, exceedingly low and clear, and the wind, blowing almost constantly from the S.W., is well-nigh sultry. A good stiff breeze, with a slight nip of frost, would possibly set the pike on the move; but till that occurs the record of catches, I fear, will be meagre in the extreme.—J. E. B.

Dove.

Comparatively few anglers have been out on this river since my last. The weather has continued extremely mild, and very little has been done amongst the grayling with the fly, though several good baskets of these fish have been made on the bottom with the cockspur worm. The supposition that the salmon and trout are absorbing their attention seems to be borne out by the contents of the grayling when opened after being captured. Below Rocester down stream the grayling are numerically superior to all other fish, and as they are still very backward at surface feeding, the general opinion is that the deposited ova of trout and salmon are monopolising their attention. The same state of things is also found to exist with regard to both chub and barbel. A farm servant was "nailed" red-handed while trout groping the other day above Dovedale, and he will have to appear before the magistrates at Leek to-day (Saturday). Of course, the trout were full of spawn.—THE SPLODGER.

Ilfracombe.

Sea fishing since my last report. There has been some fine cod, conger, and

skate caught at the spillers. G. Rudd has caught this week, three cod, 17 lb. each, three skate, and two congers weighing 36 lb., also 2 immense sharks; J. Bushen, 2 cod, 16 and 18 lb. each, and one conger, 42 lb.; R. Souch, some fine cod and conger; J. Scamp, 2 congers; P. Redmore, ling, 22 lb., and 2 large skate. Line fishing has decidedly improved this week. Ben Williams, while fishing off Bird-in-the-hole, caught 18 lb. of whiting-pout; S. Ley, 14 lb., W. Tucker, 11½ lb., and J. Cutcliffe, fishing from the jetty with hand lines, caught a cod 15 lb. Several crabs have also been taken from holes in the rocks. Weather very fine.—E. COMER.

Lark and Cam.

Roach and dace feeding very well in these streams. Mr. Goater landed yesterday (Thursday) some dace close on 1 lb. each, also several splendid roach, 1½ lb. each. They are being preserved. Mr. Howlett, our naturalist friend, took on Friday week 21 lb. of fine roach, one of them scaling over 2 lb.; this is being stuffed. Pike are not feeding well; waters in good condition; wind rather bad. It is decided to have a good hunt for the otters that are doing so much damage to the fish near Barton Mills and Mildenhall, on the river Lark, and we believe permission has been granted by the Marquis of Bristol and several owners of land on the river banks for the hunt to take place. Mr. William Owers, and several gentlemen from the neighbourhood, will kindly assist in the hunt, for unless something is done there will be no fish left. Four large roach were found yesterday (Thursday) partly eaten.—H. MERLIN.

Lea (Waltham Abbey).

Good news for jack fishermen, for they are well on the feed. W. Wheeler, 2 very nice fish, near on 8 lb.; on Monday, Alfred Wheeler, 2 fish, 2½ lb. and 2 lb.; on Tuesday, 1 fish, 3½ lb., and 2 undersized returned to the water. The perch have been well on the feed with worms and minnow. A gentleman fishing in the Abbey stream on Wednesday had a nice little take of perch, all with the worm. The roach are not feeding at present, but the water is in first-class order for all-round fishing. The jack are now beginning to work on the shallows, and the best fish have been taken with the loose float on the bottom, or legering, as they term it.—PENCIL.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

Since my last some very good jack have been taken in front of the house, and some few roach in the garden, but not many. The water is in first-class order; the weather is dull and heavy. A fine perch of 2 lb. picked up dead on Monday, with a large hole in the side, I think done by a heron. I counted eleven of them on the marsh on Monday of this week, all in a mob together.—PENCIL.

Leicester.

Notwithstanding that the weather has lately been of a very open kind, anglers have not been doing anything great in the way of sport. The Leicester Angling Society's waters continue to attract a few of those faces which are always to be met with whenever fishing is in the least practicable; but very poor success, in a general way, has attended their efforts. A few dace, roach, and chub have been taken, but pike fishing is wonderfully quiet to what might be expected. A good many of those caught seem to be fast filling with spawn, and from appearance, both pike and dace will spawn early this year. I hear of a fair number of Leicester anglers patronising the best of the waters in this neighbourhood, but the sport in most cases was moderate, and very few good pike have been landed. It would seem that the fish are completely off the feed. At the Wreake, a few brace have been taken, while at Barrow-on-Soar and Yarborough but little seems to have been done lately. The wind is constantly changing from north to north west, and this doubtless has the effect of keeping the fish from biting very freely. The weather to-day (Thursday) much colder than it has been for some time past, and inclined to be foggy.—ALERT.

Lodden.

The river still in splendid condition for pike, chub, perch, roach, &c., but the creels of late have not been so heavy as they ought to have been, probably owing to the clearness of the water. A gentleman, live baiting for pike, ran a fine fellow three times, but lost each time, Pikey not feeling inclined to swallow the bait. Several four and five-pounders have been grassed, and no doubt this fellow will follow suit shortly. Trout spawning is still very backward. On the 26th of January, last year, I had completed my task; but, from all appearance, I shall not have finished this season until the 26th of February. On Friday last, the 11th inst., about daybreak, just before starting to the stock ponds, I could but remark to my men upon the mildness of the morning—not a breath of air stirring. Several herons were stalking across the meadows and scours, and blackbirds were whistling in various directions. The thermometer stood at 50 deg., but whilst at the stock ponds, about 10 o'clock, a strong, cold, westerly, veering north wind sprang up, which compelled us to put on our coats, the thermometer falling to 34 deg. This continued up to about 3 o'clock, when a tremendous storm of hail and rain came on, lasting half an hour, and causing a good freshet in the river, since which the weather has assumed its previous mildness. Probably the coming and going of this sudden change had some influence over the finny tribes.—FRANK GOSDEN.

Lugg and Arrow.

Both these streams still keep in good fishing order; the waters are clear but low. On Saturday a very good dish of fish was taken in the Arrow with the grasshopper, and in the Lugg some very good grayling were taken with the same bait. On Monday the Lugg was visited with the worm, and some very good fish were landed. A gent visited the Arrow on Tuesday with the grasshopper and landed a very good basket of grayling weighing about 7 lb. A visit to the water at Monkland on Wednesday resulted in landing a very good dish of fish with the same bait. A gent visited the Lugg on Wednesday and landed some dozen fine grayling. At Ivington on Tuesday a gent landed a fine basket of fish with the grasshopper, and some few were taken with worm. At Earsland some very good fish have been landed; on Monday a gent landed about 4 lb., and on Wednesday 3 lb., with the grasshopper. There has been some good sport in the Bodenham waters this week with the same bait. The Shobden waters have been visited but little this week, and but few fish have been taken. The Pinsley is in good order, but low. Some very fine grayling were taken from it on Monday with the grasshopper, and a very good basket on Tuesday with the same bait. Weather very mild.—GWYNNE.

Medway (Tunbridge).

The water is in good condition, being, in fact, better than it has been all the year. Bream, roach, and pike have been taken during the week, both above and below the town. The former have been captured with a red worm, and the pike in all manner of ways—spinning, live-baiting, and trolling. In one day Mr. G. West, opposite Barden Park, succeeded in killing four pike ranging

up to 4½ lb. The otters are again a nuisance in the fishery, migrating from the upper reaches to the better-stocked waters of the society. Owing to their wandering habits, it is next to impossible to trap them; but I fancy they will be in for a rough handling if they should fall in for a personal interview with Foster, the bailiff, who has been whispering soft blessings on their heads.—Y&E MEDWAY WATER-RAT.

Ouse and Ivel (Blunham.)

Very fine sport been had; water in first-class order. Three jack weighed 26 lb., and several others of smaller size. Some good bags of roach were made on Wednesday, weighing up to 1½ lb. each.—S. E.

Ouse (Littleport).

Fishing has been changeable, but, on the whole, very good for the middle of January. No one seems to care to go in for pike fishing, although the water is in prime order. All seem dead on cadturing roach, because they make such a splendid fight off on fine tackle. The following are a few of the takes: January 11th, Mr. W. Fetch, Cambridge, 11 lb. of good roach, largest, 1 lb. 1½ oz.; Mr. Henry Lee, Cambridge, 11 lb. of very good roach, largest, 1 lb. 10½ oz., not easily beaten for a true roach; January 12th, Mr. W. Fetch, Cambridge, 12 roach, averaging ½ lb.; January 13th, Mr. J. Hutt, Cambridge, jack, 2½ lb., and 2½ lb. of roach; Mr. Franz Hentschel, Cambridge, 3 lb. of roach (last two takes in 3 hours); January 14th, Mr. F. Ibbotson, Cambridge, 6 lb. of roach; Mr. F. Drew, Cambridge, 7½ lb. of roach, largest, 1 lb. 1 oz. January 15th, Mr. F. Y. Lee, Cambridge, 10 lb. of good roach; Mr. Wallace, Cambridge, (first attempt) 3 lb. of roach; Mr. Mole, Cambridge, 4½ lb. of roach, largest, 1 lb. 2½ oz.; Mr. Barker, Cambridge, 8 lb. of roach; Mr. Clayton, Cambridge, 4 lb. in 3 hours; Mr. F. Drew, Cambridge, 14 lb. of roach and silver bream, largest roach, 1 lb.; January 16th, Mr. G. Bailey, Cambridge 4 lb. of roach; Mr. J. Hall, Cambridge, 6 lb. of good roach; Mr. F. Drew, Cambridge, 12½ lb. of roach; Dr. Cooper, President of the Cambridge and Ely Angling Society, 5½ lb., some nearly up to 1 lb.; January 17th, Master H. Conder, Cambridge, 3½ lb. of roach; Mr. Walter Webb, Cambridge, 6 roach and silver bream going 5 lb. the lot, two silver bream, 1 lb. 11 oz., and 1 lb. 6 oz., respectively; Mr. F. Drew, Cambridge, 9 lb. of roach and silver bream; Mr. J. Barker, Cambridge, 4 lb. of roach.—CHARLIE SOUTH.

Severn (Shrewsbury).

The past week has afforded some grand weather for angling, and it has been taken advantage of by many of our local friends, several of whom have been rewarded with a fair share of roach and dace for their trouble. The river is exceedingly low, and has been for a long time, there having been no rain for weeks. A man fishing in Beck's field one day last week, caught a couple of jack, and a very nice dish of coarse fish. Those who have tried their luck below the town also seem to have been fairly recompensed for their exertions. Two gentlemen have, I hear, been out pool fishing, and have had some good sport. The deputations from the Council and Angling Society, who were invited by the Board of Conservators to meet their executive committee, and confer with them upon the proposed Act, went to Worcester on Wednesday last, and consisted of the following gentlemen:—From the town council—Councillors G. J. Groves, and J. Robinson; from the Angling Society, Messrs. J. Hawley, Edwards, W. H. Brown, J. H. Morris, and F. H. Morgan, hon. sec. The executive committee will report on the subject to the next meeting of the Board. From what I can hear, I think it is very likely that notices will be issued before the 2nd February by the riparian owners, prohibiting the use of nets and night lines opposite their several properties, and any one found netting or night-line fishing will be prosecuted. This only refers to the borough, and is the only means by which the trout which were placed in the river last year can be protected. This will be a step in the right direction, and good luck attend its promoters, say I.—SEVERN SALMON.

Teme (Ludlow).

Anglers cannot complain of the water or weather; and the quantity of fish in the river is greater, I am assured, than ever was known. Large quantity of grayling are to be found up as far as Knighton, and the Clun is literally teeming with fish. We have no report of anything having been done this week in the Leintwardine club district; in fact, until we come down to Ludlow there has been little or nothing doing. In Ashford quarter a few grayling have been caught with the grasshopper. A number of pike inhabit the Teme about here, going down to about the Weir. Repeated attempts have been made to catch these fish; but up to the present they have defied both rod and line and net, though repeated attempts have been made (by experts from Worcester, sent for specially) to land them. In the Steventon water some really good perch have been caught, and a few grayling. The Clun has scarcely been visited at all this week. I saw on Saturday some nice roach caught just below Mr. Collins's mill, and a few perch. The grasshopper has done some little execution up the Oney. On Monday, a gentleman, with the grasshopper in the Felton waters of the Corve, caught twelve very nice grayling, which weighed altogether about 6 lbs. The next day more grayling were hooked in the same locality. There is nothing going on in the Letwyche. Salmon continue to be got out of the water when the opportunity presents itself, no matter how sickly or diseased they may be. Weather continues overcast.—S. LUDLOW.

Teme (Tenbury.)

This water still continues in splendid condition for fishing; the water is low, but very clear. The fish are sporting very well, and the best bait is the grasshopper. A visit to the water on Saturday with the grasshopper resulted in landing a very fine basket of grayling. On Monday a gentleman landed some dozen fine fish with the grasshopper, and on Tuesday another very good lot were taken with the same bait. The water near Little Hereford was visited on Tuesday with the grasshopper, when a splendid basket of grayling were taken, some weighing 1 lb. each. A gentleman tried the Letwyche on Monday, and landed some very fine fish with the worm, and a splendid lot were taken on Tuesday with the grasshopper. A gentleman fishing below the town on Wednesday, with the grasshopper, landed a splendid lot of grayling, weighing about 6 lb. the lot. There are great precautions being taken with respect to the salmon which are dead in the water, some having been taken from the water, and the best parts cut off and eaten. There are now watchers by the water nearly all the day to prevent anything of the kind, and a splendid salmon was taken from the water dead the other day and buried, weighing between 20 and 30 lb. The Kyre and Rea are in good order, but few fish have been taken in them this week.—WORCESTER.

Trent (Newark).

The water is now in capital condition for chub and pike fishing. I have not heard of any catches of importance being had this week. I saw one angler with a jack about 5 lb., and he said he had hooked another but lost it. Another

angler had two about 4 lb a piece; and a few, but very few (as far I can learn) chub have been taken from the Lower Trent. Just now the water and weather are all that can be desired for pike and chub fishing; and, in my opinion, pith and brains will be the best bait for the latter, and the live bait for the former; and, if I had some spare time on my hands just now, only these two fish would claim my attention, considering the present prime state of the water.—THE TRENT OTTER.

Wye and Derwent.

The weather during the past week has been very mild, and more like the middle of spring, which has caused a good many fishermen to turn out on these rivers, especially the Derwent, and both the pike and bottom fishermen have killed some good baskets, chiefly of grayling, roach, dace, and a few chub, and small perch, with worms for baits. The pike have run rather small; the largest being a little over 5 lbs. weight. The natural flies have been out more abundantly this week, viz., the long flat-winged browns, and the old cock wing dun, or what some please to call the hare's ear dun. The long, flat-winged brown fly is the first and earliest fly that appears on these rivers. Some fishermen call it the red fly, owing to its claret body. It is made in different ways, viz., the partridge rump hackle, with body very much like the alder fly, only rather more claret, and not so thick, also made from the wings of hen pheasant. The dun brown, for instance. The partridge rump hackle, dressed with yellow silk, with a small portion of hare's ear spun sparingly. Wren tail hackle, with the same body, or honey dew tackle for legs, ribbed with gold twist, and the hen pheasant's winging. I seldom use these made patterns myself; as both trout and grayling take the claret bumble most greedily when the browns are on the water, also the spider is also well taken. Both the Wye and Derwent are running down nicely, and are getting into very good condition for fly-fishing; in fact, I have seen several very good grayling rising during the past week. I myself do not consider the rivers to be unusually high at the present time, considering the time of the year, for grayling fly-fishing. The Wye is a much earlier river than the Derwent, and grayling will be found to rise freely at the fly on feeding days. The flies I recommend gentlemen to use are these: Bumble, claret body, point, furnace first drop, and spider fly second drop. All these flies will be found to kill. Trout are very forward in condition this year. Several good fish have been killed while worm-fishing for grayling, which have been in first-class condition, and I heartily wish every lover of fly-fishing a better season than the last. Last Monday there was a "pike supper," as it is commonly called here, from fish caught out of the Derwent, along with other good things, held at Mr. William Wylvill's, Hodgkinson's Hotel, Matlock Bath. There was a fair attendance, and everything went off satisfactory, and everyone was highly satisfied. I may add that any gentlemen coming into Derbyshire for either pleasure or angling will find his hotel a first-class place to stop at. The cooking is first-rate, clean, and the charges are very reasonable. They have nearly always fish in the hotel that is in season—viz., either trout or grayling—for their guests, and the trains run nicely for either the Wye or Derwent from Matlock Bath.—G. J. EATON.

Yare (Norwich).

Very favourable accounts have reached me this week of jack fishing on this river. Catches of 10 with two rods, the largest weighing 12 to 10 lbs. respectively, and the remainder good fish, and the next day 12 fish, at the same place, what size I do not know; following day five good fish, from 9 lbs. downwards, and young Hart and friend lower down stream took seventeen in the day. I am informed these were all caught live-bait fishing. With regard to size the two largest weighed 17½ lbs. each. Snap tackle, with only one or two exceptions, was used to catch the fish referred to, in the three first instances, and I find that several local worthies, who spend a good deal of their time on the water hereabouts, are gradually adopting this mode, and dropping altogether the cruel and unnecessary gorge. One of them yesterday told how he had just caught five nice jack in the public stream above Pastwick. Jack fishermen will do well to note the fact that fish now seem well on the feed, and that they are met with plentifully quite up stream. The weather to-day is raw and cold, and it does not feel unlike the approach of rain. Some frosts with N.E. winds would awaken the jack on the broads, from which I expect to hear of good sport for several weeks to come.—ROBERT MOLL.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

OPERATIONS AT THE TAY DISTRICT SALMON HATCHERY.

Owing to the flooded state of the Tay, considerable difficulty has this year been experienced in securing sufficient ova to stock the Tay District Fishery Board's salmon hatchery at Dupplin. Fishing began on the 7th November, and it was not till the 31st December that all the boxes were stocked. Fishing was carried on during 19 days, in the course of which time 911 salmon and grilse were landed, of which 31 were clean fish—by far the largest proportion yet met with in any one season. Of the others 61 female fish were found ready for spawning, and deprived of their ova, 111 males being used for impregnation. It is calculated that about 280,000 are now on the grills in the hatchery, some of the earliest placed of which are now "eyed." An experiment is being made in one of the boxes with the tray instead of the grill system. About 40,000 additional ova have been placed in the open air breeding ponds at Stormontfield.

SALMON DISEASE IN THE RIVER TAY.

A meeting of the Tay District Fishery Board was held in Perth last week, at which their inspector, Mr. A. H. Lumsden, submitted a report he had prepared with reference to the prevalence of salmon disease in the river Tay and its tributaries. From this report it appears that during November and December last 1,680 dead fish, mostly victims of fungus, were taken by the watchers from the rivers, this number being only 193 less than that of 1881, when the disease was particularly virulent. Of the 1,680 fish 815 were male salmon, 390 females; 325 male grilse, 120 female grilse, and 30 trout. Of the salmon, 557 were spawned and 648 unspawned; and of the grilse, 256 were spawned and 139 unspawned. As indicating the extent to which the disease prevails, it may be stated that when fishing was being carried on up till after the new year to obtain ova for the hatchery and breeding ponds, between 20 and 30 per cent. of all the fish landed were found to be affected. The dead fish were distributed as follows:—From the Earn and Ruchill, 1,019; from the Tay, Isla, Tummel, Garry, and Lyon, 661. It is gratifying to be able to state that the salmon which have escaped the disease this year are exceptionally fine-looking fish, and the river has been well stocked with breeding fish all the season, and the prospects of the 5th are decidedly good.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

W. H. (Kidderminster).—What do you require explained? There is nothing extraordinary in finding a herring among sprats, or in finding a fish $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch long in a herring.

SUBSCRIBER.—You say you enclose your card, but you have omitted to do so. If you will send it we will answer your queries by letter, as we have not space to go into the matter over again in the GAZETTE.

LIVE BAIT.—In saying that Mr. Jardine found "snap" fly-fishing and spinning of no use we meant live bait fishing with float and his usual "snap" tackle. He never gives a pike much time, or waits for it to "gorge" whatever tackle he uses. In paternoster fishing he listens with his hand on the line for any pike attack, and then waits a second or two, till the fish begins to move off. But we have asked him to describe his method of paternoster fishing.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

[Several letters are unavoidably held over until next week.—Ed.]

FARMERS AND ANGLERS.

SIR.—I was glad to see your Editorial note to the letter from "Higher Wharfedale" in last week's GAZETTE, and if some of your readers would take it to heart, they would find it was by their benefit. One would think, from the tone adopted by some of your correspondents, that the rivers were made solely for the purpose of affording them sport, and that those who are fortunate enough to possess the right of fishing from their own land should never be allowed to catch a fish. I am an angler myself, make my own flies, and never miss a chance of fly-fishing when I have the time to spare, consequently I do get a dish of trout now and then. But some of my neighbours, clever enough with the gun, know nothing and care nothing about fishing, and if it were not for a flood now and then, which enables them to get a few fish with the net, they would never see a trout all the season. You say, when you get permission from a farmer to fish, you don't forget to send him a few for himself. All I can say is, if more anglers did the same, the farmers would feel much more inclined to look after the fish, and stop night lines and nets. I have got the right of fishing from three of my fields, alongside of which runs a well-known trout stream: you would be somewhat astonished if you knew the number of applications for permission to fish which I get during the season, most of them from perfect strangers. I rarely refuse permission, unless I find that my rule that nothing but fly is to be used (I use nothing else myself) is broken. It is true the majority of these anglers do little more than scare the fish out of their lives, and I have many a quiet laugh at the manner in which some of these "complete anglers" attempt to catch trout. They usually, in order "to see the water," walk up and down the bank before they begin, and then they thrash away with most gorgeous tackle, the sight of which is enough to send every trout to his hole for the rest of the day. When I get home in the evening, I generally find that after "fishing" during the hottest and brightest part of the day they have been up to beg a glass of milk, and ask if there are any fish in the river. But sometimes we get a very different customer: he arrives almost before we are stirring in the morning shakes hands with me in a very hearty manner, inquires after the missus and the youngsters, thinks the crops look well, and that is the last we see of him for that day. Does he get any fish? Leave him alone for that. If I walk down the water in the middle of the day, I generally find him dozing under a tree in the shade. Has he caught any fish? "Nothing to speak of; sheep washing up above, put 'em off the feed; may get a few in the evening." He seems unwilling to enter into details, and carelessly throws the macintosh across his creel, in which I have already seen several good fish, through the half-closed lid. I know that he rarely leaves without at least five or six brace, and sometimes with twice that number. Does he ever leave any at my house? Not he. How do I know he gets a lot? Well, I was chatting with the stationmaster shortly after one of his visits, and he remarked that there must be a fine lot of trout in my bit of water—it is only about half a mile altogether. I asked why he thought so, and he replied that Mr. D.—had got his basket full (and it is not a small one) the other night. "What, did he show them to you?" said I. "No; but while he was getting his ticket the squire's son opened the basket, and then called to the squire, who was talking to the vicar, to see them. The squire cross-questioned Mr. D. as to where he got them, but he didn't get much information. I could see the squire didn't quite like the looks of Mr. D.; there is a bit of a poacher look about him, and he asked me afterwards where Mr. D. could have got the fish." But I didn't want any proof as to whether Mr. D. got fish or not, and to do him justice I never met a man who could fish like him. But why should he make such a mystery about it, and never pay me the compliment of giving me a brace or two of my own fish? Is it any wonder that farmers who are treated like this refuse permission to anglers and use the net when they can? What does the farmer get for being liberal? Nothing but broken fences, grass trod down, gates left open, and his fish taken away by some perfect stranger. I don't say that damage is wilfully done, but that doesn't mend matters. Leaving a gate open doesn't sound very dreadful, perhaps; but when it means a loss of twenty or thirty pounds to the farmer—well, ask my neighbour, old Tomkins, what he thinks of anglers. "Dang un, let me catch un on my ground, that's all!" Two seasons back he lost fifteen out of twenty sheep through some "fisher-feller" leaving a gate open, and the sheep got into a field of young clover, and to use his own words, "blasted theirselves,"—were blown out like balloons. I heard that the next "fisher-feller" that asked him for permission to fish came very near fishing in the duck-pond. Why don't we let our water to the angling club? Well, there are many reasons, in my case I like to have my bit of fishing in my own hands, and give a day now and then to some friend from town. The sum offered never compensates for the damage done, and you can't order a man off who has paid to fish in your water; and as for seeing a fish, well, I can only say my experience of club anglers is that they never seem even to think of giving you any, however successful they have been. Of course, there are exceptions. For instance, there is a clergyman who always has one or two days on my water when the May-fly is on; he invariably brings up a brace or two of fish for my wife, and not the smallest either. It is not the value of the fish, though they are welcome enough at times, but it is the little act of courtesy, which shows good feeling, and shows that the angler appreciates the courtesy you have shown him by permitting him to fish. When I was bailiff on an estate in Lanarkshire, I knew many an angler who was refused permission to

fish because he had been two or three times, and gone away with ten or twenty pounds of trout, without sending so much as a brace up to the Hall. Mr. B.—did not care twopence about trout, but his lady was always giving them away to some sick body in the villages round, and, to use her own words, when she heard of this sort of thing going on she "would not stand it," and the consequence was I had instructions not to permit Mr. So-and-So to fish, and very much astonished he looked when I did so, for of course we were not going to ask him for any of the fish. The system of fishing for prizes was just becoming general then among Scotch angling clubs, and doubtless that accounted for this selfishness in gentlemen who were often too liberal with their whiskey and tips to the keepers. I could tell of some rather queer things done by these "gentlemen" when competing for the club prize. It doesn't affect me, but I never could see what pleasure there was in fishing like a steam engine all day, with never so much as a rest for lunch. The proverbial "good fellowship of anglers" doesn't get much room to be shown when two anglers are fishing for the same prize—it is all a case of self then; a jealous race for the best pools and most likely places, and as for expecting to learn from one of these anglers what fly he is killing with—well, you might as well ask your grandmother. But this is a matter which does not concern me greatly, except that, as an angler, I don't think it's quite the right thing. The object of my grumble, if you think it worth a place in your paper, is to give the farmer's view of the matter. I am as much against using the net as any of your correspondents who have written so strongly on the subject. The farmer can be the angler's best friend, and often is, and a little more consideration for his feelings, and considerably less thoughtless destruction of his property, would cost little, but would do much towards remedying the grievance of which your correspondents complain,—far more than the levying of a tax of twice £1 13s 4d. on nets—twenty brace of decent trout at 1s per lb. would pay for that. I should not have troubled you with these remarks but for your footnote, and because I am convinced that much of what I have grumbled about—farmers are privileged to grumble, you know—is done from sheer thoughtlessness and ignorance of the damage that may be done by making even a gap in a hedge, to say nothing of the cost of repairing it, which falls entirely on the farmer. I need not tell you that we farmers have a pretty hard fight, even the most fortunate of us, to make both ends meet. Many of us taste precious little of the "butcher's meat" we feed for market. I am perfectly certain that many a reader of these lines has thoughtlessly done some of the things I complain of; even you, sir, must have often and often got over a hedge, and in doing so helped to make a gap, which is completed by the next angler who follows you. You thought nothing about it at the time, unless when you waded out to fish the next stream, and felt an unpleasantly cool sensation in one of your waders, then you doubtless wished the farmer at Jericho for mending his fence with a black-thorn bush. But picture to yourself the farmer when he visits the spot on his round next morning, and finds his colts in the young corn, and a morning's work to be done before he can get them out and mend the hedge. Do you blame him if he stands there for a few moments with his hands in his pockets, "dangling" the world in general, and anglers in particular? Most likely the crop his colts are destroying would be a poor one at best, and he knows that however many thorns his man puts in, the next angler has only got to go a yard or two higher up to undo all his work again. And it is not one gap once in the season that he has to mend and pay for; the extent of his damage is only limited by the number of anglers and the fences to be got over. Have you, Mr. Editor, ever mended a gap in a hedge? Probably not, but doubtless you have enjoyed the privilege of employing a British workman to repair a leak in your drains. The British farm labourer does not work for nothing, and moreover he takes quite as much time over it, and a great deal more beer or cider, than even your London plumber.—I am, &c.,
AN ANGLER FARMER.

Riverdale, Yorks, Jan. 14.

[We are "free to confess," as Bret Harte says, that we have some experience both of country hedges and London plumbers, and acknowledge there is a great deal of truth in what "An Angler Farmer" says—especially as regards the waders! We know something about mending a hedge too, or rather fence, which is much the same thing, only worse. We have the fortune, or misfortune, to rent a piece of water which is partly surrounded by a fence, and also partly by a hedge. Some of our neighbours seem to think this fence is "fair game" when they are short of firewood: all the boys in the neighbourhood, and there are millions of boys in the neighbourhood—are evidently under the impression that both fence and hedge were put up for them to pull down. The hours we have spent, the smashed fingers we have experienced, the money we have paid in a perfectly vain endeavour to keep that fence and hedge in order are things we prefer not to think about. The abuse we have had to put up with would justify boy-slaughter, in our opinion. We can feelingly recommend the remarks of our correspondent to our readers. We agree with him that the damage done is done thoughtlessly—(one boy we caught, about the only one, making a hole to crawl through, got off on the plea that it was "only a little un")—but it is, as he says, none the less damage, and in the case of the farmer often leads to a really heavy loss.—Ed.]

THE RIGHT OF BANK FISHING IN THE THAMES AT NIGHT.

SIR.—Your scarcely polite foot-note to the correspondence with the *Field* copied into your last week's issue (which I did not myself send you copy of) calls for a few corrective remarks. I did not know of the arrest of the two men taken night fishing until the Sunday morning, when the police superintendent called at my house and informed me of it. I remarked that I thought the act would be considered beyond the powers of the assistant river-keeper who had found the delinquents. The superintendent replied that the men were taken into custody under the regulations of police, because they gave evidently false accounts of one another; at a distance apart each was asked his own name and that of his companion, and the replies did not agree, whereupon, being occupied illegally, the constable, who was a sergeant of police and a competent officer, took them into custody. In every respect the appearances of the men were entirely to their disadvantage, nor could any fishing club affect to be proud of such members. I attended the case, and of course maintained the effect of the By-law, but urged a very mitigated fine, and had almost got them off at a quite nominal penalty when other unfavourable matters came out, and the penalty was fixed at 5s. each. I cannot understand the glaring inconsistency of angling clubs desiring to set up their right of night fishing; it was made illegal because it was the direct incentive and opportunity of night poaching and night lining, and we have here in Henley three or four or more men whose suspicious haunting of the waters at unusual hours has only been arrested and put down in consequence of certain prosecutions, and an open and widely-expressed determination to prosecute every violation of the law. How defiantly and unmanagably would all these loafers renew their practices with their lanterns not concealed, and rods and tackle—two rods per man—as a blind, truculently asserting the right

to night angling, and daring any person to interfere, and in a short time again setting up poaching practices that in outward appearance would have to be supposed legitimate. It is perfectly absurd for any chairman of a fishing club, because he is dubbed a chairman, to claim to be an oracle of law, and to direct his fellow members by his dictum on their rights. Nor, though the popularity of the FISHING GAZETTE may be sustained by a similar course, can I think that the Editor, whom I should wish to believe to be a gentleman of understanding, candour, and discretion, can fail to experience a doubt that this By-Law 10, even with its added words, is limited of its wholesome effect.

The words, "from any vessel, boat, or punt," were inserted, are a mere redundancy in the effective text; and, if Mr. Geen's verbose and confused account of the insertion of these words be correct, then I say that, while the obtrusive pressure and importunity he claims to have used towards the Conservators on this point was practically unwise and thoughtless, a betrayal of the essence of river preservation for the sake of a worthless crotchet of his own, his notion was shunted (so to speak) by some keener mind into an impotent, though at first perplexing interpolation, which only gives prominence to one incidental and more objectionable mode of infraction without at all qualifying or limiting the reach of the major prohibition which follows. Suppose the words had been inserted thus: "Fish for, or take, or attempt to take, any fish from any boat, punt, or vessel, except, &c.," the effect would have been palpably different; and in the sense Mr. Geen says he desired, I think this makes the matter clearer. I imagine the Thames Conservancy heartily detest fish, fishing, and fisheries; evidently there are many points they do not understand so as to regulate correctly and prosperously, and they refrain from acting up to the spirit of their powers, and they often receive suggestions and remonstrances, founded on very limited observation and intelligence, which do not serve to disperse any hostile feeling, if it exists. In this case I think them right.—I am, &c.,

J. W. KNIGHT.

The "Bumptious" Hon. Sec. of the Henley Preservation Association.

Henley-on-Thames.

[It will be evident to every impartial reader that we were not far out in describing Mr. Knight as "bumptious," and as he evidently rather lives the appellation, as evinced by his signature above, we shall not dispute his claim to it. "Bumptiousness" is "writ large" in every line of his letter. As hon. sec. of the society which prosecuted the two club anglers for night fishing, he cannot get out of his responsibility in the matter, nor, it must be admitted, does he make much attempt to do so. His attempt to vindicate the action of his society is a sorry failure; it is not a question of whether it is advisable to allow bank fishing in the Thames at night or not, that is a matter on which he has a perfect right to have his own opinion; but because his opinion is opposed to that of some thousands of anglers, it by no means proves that he is right. The question is—Is it legal or illegal to fish from the banks of the Thames at night? This question can only be answered, as Mr. Geen so well pointed out, by a reference to the by-laws which regulate the Thames fishery. There is no by-law prohibiting night fishing from the bank, and for the very good reason that the conservators, in deference to the wishes of the London club anglers, made their by-laws respecting night fishing refer distinctly only to fishing from "any vessel, boat, or punt," and this was done not to prevent angling so much as accidents from boats being in the way of passing vessels. Unless it is possible to construe fishing from the bank as meaning fishing from a boat, how is it possible legally to punish anyone for fishing from the bank? To leave out the word bank from a by-law, and yet to say that it is practically included in the words "any vessel, boat, or punt," is pure childishness; there are a hundred bank anglers to every one that fishes from a boat or punt. To omit this word and yet argue that it is included is as logical as to consider the play of "Hamlet" complete without the Prince of Denmark. Mr. Knight says, "It is perfectly absurd for any chairman of a fishing club, because he is dubbed a chairman, to claim to be an oracle and to direct his fellow members by his dictum on their rights." It is "perfectly absurd" for the honorary secretary of a small provincial society to write in this ignorant way about a gentleman who is president of the West Central Association of London and Provincial Anglers (numbering between two and three thousand members), and who has done probably as much or more for the benefit of anglers generally than any man living, and who, moreover, as a member of the committee of the Thames Angling Preservation Society, was chiefly instrumental in getting the Thames By-laws amended in the interest of anglers. Mr. Geen has not only a perfect knowledge of the history of the drafting of those by-laws, gained by months of hard work devoted entirely to them, but, as President of the Association, has no choice but to see that they are carried out properly, and by "properly" we mean in the spirit and to the letter of their intention. Mr. Geen is not the man to stand by and see any unfair straining of the by-law to suit the purposes of Mr. Knight. Nor is he the man to take advantage of any unintentional oversight on the part of the Conservators. He knows, and the Conservators know, and the president and secretary of the T. A. P. S. know and admit, that bank fishing at night was not prohibited, because it was intended to permit it. We may fairly retort on Mr. Knight, "Why should this 'Honorary Secretary' of a small angling society, because he is dubbed 'Honorary Secretary,' claim to be an oracle of law, and to direct his fellow members by his dictum on their rights?" We have shown what Mr. Geen's claims are—to stand up for the rights of London anglers who fish in the free waters of the Thames. Mr. Knight's claim rests chiefly on having closed some miles of fishing, which have always been open to London anglers, refusing them even the chance of fishing on payment, getting them locked up for doing what they have a perfect right to do, and abusing London club anglers generally in what we have ventured to designate a most "bumptious" manner. As regards the methods in which we may choose to "sustain the popularity of the FISHING GAZETTE," that is a matter for our consideration, and will decidedly not be governed by any advice from Mr. Knight. We should consider we were adopting a very sorry way to sustain them if we supported such an open violation of the Thames by-laws as the imprisonment and fining of two anglers for bank fishing at night in the Thames. We know no more of the two men referred to than we do of Mr. Knight. The ground we take is the ground Mr. Geen takes—that they were illegally convicted. When the Conservators get a by-law in force prohibiting night fishing from the bank, we shall be as ready as Mr. Knight to see it enforced. No one has written more strongly against the conduct of some men calling themselves anglers than we have; but to punish the whole flock because there are, undoubtedly, some black sheep among them is, in our opinion, as unreasonable as it is unjust.—Ed.]

THE AWARDS.

SIR,—I was in hopes we had done with this subject; but another "unquiet shade" of the departed Fisheries Exhibition has been dug up in the shop of

Mr. Anderson, of Edinburgh, and the bile which he has thrown off does not at all surprise me, as he could hardly be expected to swallow the most decisive thrashing he has just received at the hands of his countrymen, Messrs. Forrest, Wright, Redpath, and Malloch, and I trust you will allow me just to make one or two observations which I promise shall be my last. Let it not be assumed, however, that my defence is exhausted. *Au contraire*, I am as truly sorry for Mr. Anderson as any one can be who thoroughly understands the battle of trade, and I, therefore, take no exception to his bilious remarks, as he must undoubtedly feel very sore on this subject.

It were almost useless for me to say anything as to why he was not awarded the gold medal for salmon rods, yet one or two remarks may not be out of season. We all know there is the greatest diversity of opinion amongst first-class anglers as to what really is the best balance of rod, and it must be admitted that no one man (be he ever so proficient) can do equal justice to all. Why, I have seen an angler do great things with a particular rod which nineteen in every hundred would have said was useless. Thus we have every degree of balance, from stiff as a ramrod to extreme suppleness, and all have their admirers, and each one, with his own particular style, can do more than with any other. It would have been a very different thing if Mr. Anderson had been able to say all the Jurors threw a longer line with his rod than with any other; but he does not. Regarding the record of the casts which he made, and which I dare say is perfectly correct, he could not expect the Jurors to be guided by that, but rather each one individually would select what he thought best. As to the haphazard remark about the jury, it is all wrong as I could easily prove. I did not in my last letter confound the casting at the Welsh Harp with the Fisheries Exhibition, and the casts I referred to by Mr. Malloch and Mr. Wood were made on the second day of the judging of salmon rods.

Regarding Mr. Anderson's very curious remark, that three-fourths of our rods exhibited were supplied to our firm by wholesale houses, there is rather too much of the "green-eyed monster" in this, and I submit it to you, Sir, with all confidence, as you were kind enough to handle them all—Were they ordinary trade samples, which could be had from any wholesale house?—or were they special goods?

And now I should just like to ask Mr. Anderson three questions. First—How many of his rods were made by Mr. Napier, of Glasgow? Second—As this rod trade seems to serve him so very badly, had he, in broad Scotch, "No better gae back ta his auld trade o' making ha'penny dips?" And, thirdly—As he seems so very friendly disposed to the London trade, why did he, of all exhibitors, by misrepresentation to the Jury, prevent the awarding of the £10 prize for gut, which would probably have gone to a London house?

I could say a great deal in reply to this empty thunderbolt of his, but I refrain.

I thank Messrs. Williams for their kind expression, and I frankly return the same, and I trust that when next they exhibit they will be more fortunate. It is perfectly true that we (Messrs. Hardy Brothers) did enter a protest asking for an inquiry in regard to an exhibit wherein we had reason to believe that the article awarded the medal was one of our patents, or an infringement of the same. Yet you would not have us kick up a row and abuse the Jury for that? Certainly not. We caused enquiry, had our reply, and there was an end.

I did not say in my last letter that Mr. Kelson tried to throw farther than either Mr. Wood or Mr. Malloch; and, *en passant*, I believe Mr. Kelson is, without exception, the most complete master of a rod I have seen.

Regarding Mr. Andrews, we shall certainly be pleased to meet him any time or anywhere, and why not now? Let him send one dozen cane-built rods, including one each 20 ft., 18 ft., 17 ft., 16 ft., 15 ft. rods, and any others he may choose, to the editor of the FISHING GAZETTE to be judged, as against twelve we will send; the loser to give a twenty-pound note to the Anglers' Benevolent Society. And so that no special samples may be got up for the occasion, we will say let the rods be sent within fourteen days from the time this letter appears, the editor to choose any two gentlemen he may think fit to assist him in the matter as judges. We await his reply by first post.

And now, wishing all anglers "A Happy and Prosperous New Year," I have done.—I am, &c.,

Alnwick, Jan. 7th.

Jno. Jas. HARDY.

[As the correspondence about the Awards is degenerating into a trade squabble, we think it is time the matter dropped. The rods Messrs. Hardy showed us were certainly a special make.—Ed.]

A NEW FLY-BOOK.

SIR,—A handy and convenient fly-book has always been a hobby of mine, and for several years I have been trying first one system and then another without being quite satisfied that I had arrived at the best arrangement possible. Seven years ago I devised a book in which each fly could be taken out separately without interfering with the others while the long ends of gut were conveniently tucked away in a pocket at the foot of the page, without any objectionable coils to be straightened out before the fly was used. However, it was very elaborate and costly to make, and Mr. Aldam pointed out a system of his which was much simpler, while it secured the main advantage of mine. For some years I abandoned my own and used Mr. Aldam's pattern without any modification. But the eyed hooks came into fashion, and I gradually found that I wished to carry the bulk of my flies without any gut previously attached to them, and for this purpose the parchment leaves in Mr. Aldam's book were unsuitable.

Then it occurred to me that a capital book might be made by slightly modifying Mr. Aldam's plan and combining it with my own original idea. The result of this combination was a home-made book, which has proved most convenient and satisfactory for the last two seasons. It has met with the approval of many anglers whom I have seen by riverside, and not a few of them have been disappointed to find that it was not to be had in the tackle shops. Last spring Mrs. Cox, of Winchester, took a fancy to it and asked whether I would lend her the book for imitation during the winter months. This I have done, and Mrs. Cox has succeeded in getting most excellent copies made and she now has them in stock. The book is 7 inches long, 4 wide, and about an inch in thickness. It will carry four or five hundred flies. It has the usual two pockets, one at each end, in the cover, and besides these there are two small parchment pockets for banks of fine gut, and a large pocket (lined with flannel) for collars. The flannel leaves are intended for flies on eyed hooks, and each page will take from four to eight dozen, according to size. The parchment leaves are intended for flies with gut—each of the little parchment tubes (I call them "tubes" for want of a better term) will hold half a dozen flies or more, the free end of the gut being loosely put into the pocket at the foot of the page. It will be noticed that each page has two rows of these parchment tubes, the lower ones being intended for drop flies tied on short lengths of gut. By inserting the free end of the gut into a long quill open at

one end, half a dozen flies can be easily threaded at once into one of the parchment tubes. Or instead of the quill a flattened brass pipe may be used; this is the plan adopted by myself and one of my friends.

The size of the book is not inconvenient, and anyone who is fond of order and neatness in his tackle will be delighted with the appearance of the well-filled pages; he will be able to run his eye quickly over the contents of his book, and pick out any fly singly in a moment without disarranging others.

Mrs. Cox tells me that her price (including postage) is 11s. 3d. for plain leather, and 12s. 9d. for Russia—the latter being an excellent preservative against moth. These, of course, are cash prices when remittance is sent with the order. As the interior of the original book was made by myself, I can assure intending purchasers that Mrs. Cox is charging less for the complete book than I paid for parchment, flannel, and binding. I have no interest whatever in the sale so I may perhaps be allowed to add that I feel convinced that anyone who approves of the general arrangement of the book will certainly not think the price excessive.—I am, &c.,

Clifton, January 12th.

H. S. HALL.

[We had the pleasure of a call from Mr. Hall the other day, and he showed us a pattern of this new fly-book, and it certainly is a most excellent one, and we are glad to add our recommendation to his. He of course has not, nor are we aware that anyone but Mrs. Cox has, any pecuniary interest in it. We give this prominence to it, first, because it deserves it; and secondly, because our obligations to the inventor of the eyed hook make it a pleasure to us to notice anything in which he takes an interest. Nothing looks worse than an untidy fly-book. We know some anglers who keep their fly-books in horrible confusion.—ED.]

FISH CULTURE.

SIR,—As a subscriber, will you kindly reply to my questions in your next issue, if possible? I have a quantity of common brown trout in a fine healthy stream, or I might call it drain, or canal; small ponds here and there, where the water has a drop, or rather runs rapidly, and bottom is clear gravel; other parts there is mud and weeds for a long distance; the natural bottom is yellow clay. Whole stream is some four hundred yards in length, with one nice pond 20 feet in diameter through which a swell of water runs.

Kindly inform me how I should feed them—I mean what on? I give them worms only. I got by chance some salmon pea the other day, and it was very pretty to see them in the current in pond (3½ feet deep) flashing at it, none of it reaching the bottom. Please tell me *everything* I might give them.

I have two perch, about 1 lb. each, in same stream; will they do much damage to the small trout, or fight with the larger ones? Largest trout are only some 1½ lb.

Please name the best book I can get on the subject; also, please tell me if five minnows are a killing bait for trout in deep holes, where they are difficult to kill with the fly?—I am, &c.,

SOUTH OF IRELAND.

Clonmel, Ireland, Jan. 14th.

[You will have to feed your trout with something which will not give you so much trouble as getting worms for them. The best way to do this would be to get a good head of cress in your stream, and then put in some thousands of fresh water shrimps (you can get them by post from Mr. Armistead, whose articles you doubtless saw, on "Pisciculture," in the GAZETTE). Keep the trout away from them for a few weeks, and then they will get well-established, and they breed so rapidly the trout will always have plenty of food. Spratt's dog meat biscuits, mashed up in a mortar, and thrown in in handfuls will be appreciated; fresh butcher's offal, cut up small, will fatten trout rapidly—they eat it ravenously. Salmon roe is a fine thing, of course, only it is quite illegal to use it, and properly so. The perch will eat any young trout they can get hold of, and one small trout is worth a dozen perch when he grows to fighting size. Live minnow is a very killing bait for trout; in fact, is considered as unsportsmanlike in this country. The best book on the subject is the "Management of Fisheries," by Francis Francis, published at the Field office, Strand, London. We will send you Christmas Number of GAZETTE, which has an article, "Much May be Done with Little Water," if you did not see it, and would like to have it; it describes what can be done with a smaller stream than yours.—ED.]

MR. JARDINE'S RECENT TAKE OF PIKE.

SIR,—A grand haul that of Mr. Jardine's and his friend—320 lb. of pike in two days! Perhaps they will kindly tell your readers how they did it?—as your paragraph says, "all taken on gut paternoster. On none of these days was spinning or snap fishing of any use." Couldn't well be "gorge" on paternoster. How, then, were they caught?—I am, &c.,

AMWELL.

Leytonstone, E., Jan. 15.

[Snap fishing refers to float-fishing, though of course you do strike as in snap fishing in paternoster fishing—i.e., you do not let the fish gorge. See Mr. Jardine's letter elsewhere in this number.—ED.]

FEATHERS OF THE FIELDFARE.

SIR,—Fieldfares, or Blue Rumps, are bad to shoot in an open season. In a very severe winter they can be got at. This year I have not met with them at our gameshops here.

They make a useful "Bloo."

Bradford.

J. H.

P.S.—The picture which you gave last week, "Varieties of Salmon and Trout," is a very useful engraving to us, who have very little opportunity of getting into other districts.

TAX UPON NETS—ANGLERS AND FARMERS.

SIR,—The club I belong to have long been of the same opinion as your footnote, and make it a practice to present sundry dishes of trout to the farmer and owner of the land skirting the length. Some farmers are reasonable, and are always glad to meet with anglers (who know how to behave themselves); but others are just as unreasonable, and in order to annoy a club will keep a field here or there and mercilessly ply their net at every opportunity. Some, from the nature of the bottom, cannot kill many fish; still they have the gratification of feeling the club has not their ground, of which they make a boast in the village inn.

This "dog in the manger spirit" gratifies their surly disposition; they don't like to see anglers, who have come at considerable expense, enjoying themselves—in fact look upon town anglers as a class of men who ought to be sent out into the Soudan, to spend a few days with the Mahdi.

A farmer who is out with his net whenever he can, injures a club no little—not from the amount of fish he kills; but when it is well known certain farmers in clubs use the net, members will not enter the club, which, from the want of funds, goes to the wall.

My knowledge of anglers in this locality convinces me the Tax upon Nets would be hailed with delight.—I am, &c.,

HIGHER WHARFDALE.

LIVE PERCH AND JACK WANTED.

SIR,—I shall be pleased to receive tenders from persons to supply the Fisheries Society with live perch and jack for stocking waters. Please forward to R. Ghurney, 10, Baches Street, Charles Square, Hoxton, London, N.—I am, &c.,

R. GHURNEY.

N.B.—Keepers cleaning out gentlemen's ponds and lakes will be liberally treated with.

CAN ANGLING BE CRUEL?

SIR,—In the course of long and varied angling experience, comprising bottom, midwater, and surface fishing, one meets with many remarkable experiences, some of them almost incredible, and most of them believed only by sceptical laymen.

It is a favourite amusement for anti-anglers to call angling cruel; and while I do not assert that the following incident is either highly extraordinary or conclusively proves that fish have no nervous system or power of feeling, yet I do consider it to be somewhat out of the common, and worthy of a record in your paper.

On Thursday, the 27th of December instant, I was spinning for pike in the lake at Eastnor Castle, Herefordshire, having obtained the privilege through the kindness of the steward to the late Earl Somers, when I stuck a fish of about 4 lb. weight, and broke my running line. I had already killed three jack, and as I had seen one or two large perch in the water I put up a spoon bait, and shortly had the satisfaction of landing two very fine perch weighing respectively 1½ lb. and 2 lb.

On casting over the spot where I had broken my spinning tackle an hour before I killed a pike and was agreeably surprised to find that I had recovered my lost tackle. The bait, which was a 3 oz. dace, had been swallowed, and two triangles and a lip-hook were firmly imbedded in his stomach. From his mouth depended two feet of gut trace, to which was attached an ounce of lead and a yard of running line; and yet this fish, with these hooks in his vitals with two yards of line and lead trailing behind him, ran at, and was taken with, a spoon bait.

I killed that day six jack and two perch, and it is worthy of mention as a peculiar fact that a gentleman, fishing with me, who is a far better angler than I am, using the same tackle and baits, did not kill a single fish.—I am, &c.,

W. S. P.

King's Norton.

[Our correspondent gives an interesting instance of the want of feeling on the part of fish, but to his question "Can angling be cruel," we reply that it not only can, but often is, generally through thoughtlessness.—ED.]

COARSE FISH CULTURE FOR THE TRENT.

SIR,—At a committee meeting of the Newark and Muskham Fishery Association we had a long discussion respecting stocking our water on the Trent. It was the unanimous wish I should write to ask if you would kindly give us a little information respecting the Lund hatching boxes for coarse fish, the construction and price of same, &c.—I am, &c.,

Newark-on-Trent.

D. SLATER.

[We have given Mr. Slater the information he requires, and are very glad to see the association is going to try coarse fish culture in the manner we have suggested, which was so successful in the hands of the Reading Angling Association last spring. The large square-shaped box being difficult to work properly, we have recommended Mr. Slater to use a box, say 8 feet long by 4 feet wide and 2 feet high, with three galvanised wire lids to keep birds out. One lid is too heavy; a few old pea sticks or some willow roots will answer admirably as deposit places for the spawn. We have also recommended that one or more doors should be made in the perforated sides below water level, so that the parent perch can easily be let out after they have spawned. We shall be happy to give any further information to any one thinking of breeding perch in this way.—ED.]

ANGLING SLANG.

SIR,—Your remarks about angling slang gratified me very much, and I am sure must have pleased many others. "Exox Lucius" might well have been included in your list, and I am inclined to think that "drinks all round" when a fish is caught occur far more frequently in the imagination of the writer than in reality, and their frequent repetition gives a wrong impression about anglers. I am not a total abstainer by any means, but I don't fly to the bottle at every fish I catch.

The GAZETTE is far too valuable to be subjected to anything calculated to "make the judicious grieve."—I am, &c.,

SAUCE.

Worcester, Jan. 15.

[We confess to being very superstitious on the matter of going on a fishing trip without something to "wet" the fish with, and we believe also in taking enough "something" to wet every fish we catch. There is a great charm in doing this, and even if you do not catch any fish you can wet those you would have caught if you had been on the other side of the water. Then, if you meet a friend out angling, if he has been successful it is a good reason for a wet; if he has not, it would be unwise not to have one—for luck. In fact, it is difficult to imagine any circumstances under which it would be advisable to dispense with a "judicious" wet. We will not say more: "chacun à son flask," and what it contains or how much it holds are matters which it is impertinent for outsiders to trouble themselves about.—ED.]

SALMON IN TROUT STREAMS.

SIR,—After maturely considering the subject, I am quite of Mr. Corry's opinion that trout fishing does not deteriorate on the admission of salmon to the stream: rather the reverse. I have trout-fished numerous rivers and streams in the south of Ireland well stocked with trout, in many cases of excellent quality, where salmon spawn in numbers. Now, were salmon unknown in the above hard-fished waters, the unrestricted use of small meshed nets (illegal or subject to a heavy license on salmon streams), and other implements of destruction together with the absence of regular water bailiffs, would probably cause the rivers ere this to be almost denuded of trout. Certainly salmon fry give much trouble to the fly fisher, but the trout avenge him by eating them in thousands. I may be wrong, but if salmon have no worse effect on a Yorkshire trout river than they appear to have on those of the Counties Waterford, Cork, and Tipperary, the sooner they come the better.—I am, &c.,

WATCHETT.

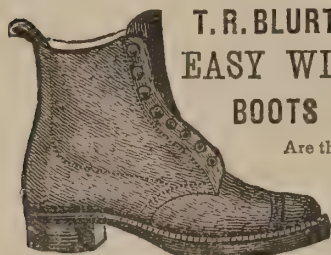
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Communications relating to the Literary Department, Fishing Tackle for Notice, Books for Review, &c., must be addressed to the Editor of the FISHING GAZETTE, No. 12, Fetter Lane, London, E.C.
Contributions are solicited, but the Editor will not undertake to return rejected MSS. unless accompanied with a stamped addressed envelope.
Correspondents are requested to write on one side of the paper only, and give their real names and addresses, not necessarily as signatures to their letters, but as a guarantee of good faith. Unless this rule be adhered to, no notice will be taken of such communications.
THE FISHING GAZETTE is published every Saturday, and can be obtained at Messrs. W. H. Smith and Son's Railway Bookstalls, and of the principal Newsagents and Fishing Tackle Dealers in London and the Provinces.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION.

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The Fishing Gazette.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26, 1884.

THE AWARDS AT THE FISHERIES EXHIBITION.

THE dissatisfied exhibitors at the late Fisheries Exhibition recently asked Lord Granville and the Home Secretary to receive a deputation upon the subject of the awards by the juries. In the letter written by the honorary secretary Mr. J. S. Fletcher, it was stated that "the chief object of the deputation is to inform your lordship of circumstances which have caused very much injury to trade, and will tend to destroy that confidence in jurors that should ever be felt." The following replies have been received:—"Jan. 14, 1884.—Sir,—I am desired by Lord Granville to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th inst., requesting his lordship to receive a deputation from the Exhibitors' Protection Association on the subject of the awards made at the recent Fisheries Exhibition. Lord Granville desires me to say that he would have been happy to have received the deputation if it were likely to serve any useful purpose, but that the matter does not appear to him to be one in which he could properly undertake to interfere.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant, J. H. Sanderson." "Whitehall, Jan. 15, 1884.—Sir, I am directed by the Secretary of State to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th inst., requesting him to receive a deputation on the subject of the awards bestowed at the conclusion of the late Fisheries Exhibition, and I am to acquaint you, in reply, that this is not a matter in which the Secretary of State can interfere.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant, Godfrey Lushington."

MR. KELSON'S ARTICLES.

THE illustrations of the "Flip," the "Elevated Flip," and the figure showing the "Overhand Flip," are in preparation, and his description will be published with them next week.

Mr. Kelson has kindly consented to answer in print any questions arising out of these articles, but the inquiries must be directed to the Editor, as Mr. Kelson cannot undertake to answer the immense number of letters he is continually receiving in any other way.

FISHING IN PRIVATE WATER.

MR. C. W. ELSDEN and his brother-in-law fished some private water, near the Thames, on Saturday last. They found the jack very plentiful, but not feeding at all satisfactory; they had no end of runs, but the fish, of their own accord, speedily left the bait. In one of the swims the float was no sooner on the surface than it disappeared, and six good fish were landed in quick succession: then there was the same old game of playing with the bait, and the anglers moved to another portion of the water, where three more fish were added to their number, and it was all over there as far as landing fish was concerned. This was the character of their sport all the day, and there was not so much as a ripple on the water. They made a finish about four o'clock, and returned homeward, well satisfied with their day. I only regret, from unavoidable causes, I was unable to accompany them.

PISCATORIAL SCRAPS.

By I. C. U.

OH! here's a nice little conspiracy. "I. C. U." Mr. J. W. Knight; "I. C. U." Mr. Greville-Fennell. I am awfully sorry to say what "I. C. U." but I must. So you two have been putting your heads together and bamboozling us, have you? I smelt a rat from the first, but I waited for the second contribution before letting the cat out.

How did I discover it? Well, you see, we professionals know each others' style as readily as other men recognise the handwriting of their brother. We cannot be mistaken when once our attention is fixed. Besides, I know Mr. Knight, and I say deliberately that he is much more likely to fly than to write letters of such conspicuous ability.

The idea of Knight's being competent, except in the matter of bad taste, to conceive letters giving utterance to ideas which I know to be Mr. Fennell's, and to do so in Mr. Fennell's language, is too utterly absurd. Put aside all feeling for a moment, and read the two letters; you will then discover that they are written by a scholar and a practised writer, who is attempting to hide himself by what we call turning a somersault and coming down behind a Tommy Nobody.

Mr. Fennell, here's to your health, old boy! Why, the Henley air seems to agree with you so well that there is no holding you. Do you know of a snug little cottage to let—on the hill, of course, and next to your own, if possible? I want to get my strength up, so that they won't be able to hold me as they did on the last occasion; yet, believe me, if the choice were mine, I would choose a crowded alley in this big city, with the principles for which I had written and laboured all my life intact, rather than sacrifice so much for the breezy hill on which you have pitched your tent.

The Thames Angling Preservation Society river-keepers spent a jolly evening on the occasion of their annual dinner, which came off at the Railway Hotel, Richmond, on the 18th, Mr. T. Spreckley in the chair. Unfortunately, many members of the committee, who intended to be present, were compelled to be elsewhere. Their absence caused a perceptible lack of go at the commencement; but as the dinner was a vast improvement on some of its predecessors, and the malt liquors in prime condition, the men were soon quite at home and on good terms with themselves.

Whiskies followed, which, although not sufficiently aged to inspire perfect confidence in freedom from headache for the following morning, had the effect of causing the men to literally burst with songs, which became the order of the evening as soon as the toasts—only two—had been disposed of. A most pleasing feature of the evening's enjoyment was the presenting of each man with a box of tobacco, a strong pouch, a serviceable briar-root pipe, and a copy of Greville-Fennell's "Book of the Roach"—the latter given by the FISHING GAZETTE, the tobacco by Mr. Spreckley, the pouches by Mr. Lemann, and the pipes by Mr. Johnstone. Item (1) Mr. Munro put on the usual 45 lb. York ham. Item (2) Mr. W. H. Brougham was present.

Another extraordinary take of pike, upwards of 5 cwt., taken in one day by two rods. This unprecedented angling feat was performed by T. R. Sachs, Esq., and a friend, who were fortunate enough to have permission to fish a lake which contains fish in large quantities, and of enormous size. My informant tells me that the same two gentlemen will fish the water again on Monday next, and that the result of the day's efforts will be on view at the Piscatorial Society's room on the evening of the same day.

This information gave me a "I knew how it would be when I saw how it was," and "There, I told you so!" sort of feeling. I undoubtedly had an undefined expectation that Mr. Jardine's big catch would be followed by a still bigger one by Mr. Sachs. Now that we have the renowned pike fishers fairly pitted against each other, we may look for some tremendous results; but I give fair warning that I am going to draw the line at the quarter of a ton. I can believe a great deal, if I try very much; but I am not going to try to go beyond that weight; so please give some evidence for the future, or I, for one, shall have a doubt of the judgment which estimates the day's take at more than 5 cwt.

Dr. Brunton read a short paper on the Grayling at the Piscatorial on Monday, and very cleverly proved that if this fish fed upon the eggs of trout at all, it could not do so to the extent generally believed. He had on the previous Saturday taken several grayling from immediately below the scours on which trout were busy spawning, and had carefully dissected their stomachs immediately after capture without finding any trace of eggs. The paper, which had been prepared during his day's drive, was well received.

The reading of papers has become very popular; sometimes it is a serious paper, at others quite a comic one, and now and then we get an original paper; but I am not yet sure that we are not more indebted to those gentlemen who compile us a paper from what has already been written, rather than risk tiring us with their own ideas on subjects which they can have made no special study of. There are men who will read you a paper on any subject you like at a few days' notice, and

will deliberately attempt to palm it off as their own. This is a very poor compliment to their audience, and anything but generous to the real authors.

The West Central Association's meeting on the 18th inst. was a most important gathering of delegates from all parts of London, almost every society of importance having a representative present. The chairman, Mr. Bonvoisin; vice-chairman, Mr. Beckett; and secretary, Mr. Tibbatts, were in their places at the stroke of the clock, and shortly afterwards the president, Mr. Geen, put in an appearance, and business commenced in earnest. The first subject of debate was as to the admission of representatives from the Central Association to the Anglers' Benevolent Committee. There were widely divergent opinions expressed, and at one time it was likely to be decided that a special meeting would have to be convened to consider the subject; but on Mr. Geen's pointing out that the question was by no means a profound one, but on the contrary a very simple one, and one upon which that meeting, in his opinion, was thoroughly competent to express an opinion—"Shall we advise the Anglers' Benevolent Committee to receive representatives from the Central Association, or shall we advise them not to do so?"—that's the question, and surely we may say "Yes" or "No" to it. Messrs. Beckett, Murphy, Manning, Wheatstone, Crumplen, Parker, and many others spoke, and on the resolution being put, it was carried unanimously, advising the Anglers' Benevolent Committee to invite the Central Association to join them in their good work. Mr. Lark made a capital lucid speech, which had the effect of drawing five pounds, with an expression of regret that the association could not afford to give more. Mr. Lark, in returning thanks, said that he hoped and believed that he should be able to induce his society to join the association, which, in his opinion, it would be wise to make the head centre of every angling society in the country.

The Richmond Piscatorial Society's annual report, which has just been printed and circulated, is one with which the members may well be satisfied, as it shows that there has been no movement for the benefit of anglers in which the society has not joined, and no appeal made to them which has not been liberally responded to. The committee do not waste words in making excuses for the balance of ten shillings being on the wrong side. They have preferred to allow the balance-sheet, which is a very eloquent one, to speak for itself. The first two lines read as follows:—

Annual Subscription, Thames Angling Preservation Society £5 5 0

Mr. Geen, netting reservoirs 3 3 0

If spending money like this makes a society poor, I, for one, were I a member, would be proud of its poverty.

There can be no doubt but that the rapid progress and great success of this society is mainly attributable to the unwearied exertions of Mr. F. C. Clench, who has been the chairman from the formation until Wednesday last, when Mr. A. J. Little, of Twickenham, was elected to fill the office. Mr. Clench holds strong opinions as to the advisability of re-electing the same chairman year after year, and it has been under great pressure and by the unanimous wish of the members that he has consented to forego them and continued to preside; but this year he is not to be persuaded indeed, he has absolutely refused—hence the necessity of choosing his successor. Those who know Mr. Little will not only wish him success, but expect it of him, as he is a good organiser and a thorough man of business.

Our two leading angling societies are about to lose the services of their secretaries. Mr. Lander, for many years the secretary of the "Piscatorial Society," will resign in consequence of ill health. I am sure a large number will join with me in hoping that a rest will completely restore him. Mr. Gaunt has resigned his position as secretary of the "Richmond Piscatorial Society," through such an increase of his private business as leaves insufficient time for the duties of secretary.

I was extremely pleased to learn that the Westbourne Park Piscatorial Society's annual dinner, which came off on Tuesday last, was a great success, as this society is deservedly noted for its liberal contribution to every good appeal, and why I mention this in connection with their dinner is because their generosity during the past year has left so small a balance in hand as necessitates each member paying for his dinner twice over—first by his annual contribution, and again on the evening of the dinner. What does Mr. Benningfield say to this?

I. C. U.

THE TIVERTON FISHING ASSOCIATION.

FROM a report of the annual meeting of the above, to hand too late to print this week, we regret very much to see that the club has decided to limit the number of strangers' tickets to ten. This will cause bitter disappointment to many a gentleman who has hitherto had an occasional day on this long stretch of fine water. We sincerely hope the gentlemen who compose this club, including such names as Colonel Kekewich, Major Rockley, Lieut.-Col. Groube, the Rev. R. M. Germon, Mr. Beedle, Mr. Unwin, Mr. H. Mudford, and other good sportsmen, will reconsider their determination.

WANTED.

We want a copy of the FISHING GAZETTE, No. 2, May 3, 1877, and will give half-a-crown for a clean copy. Address, "Manager," 12 and 13, Fetter Lane, London.

THE ROD POACHING AND SALE OF SALMON "PARR" ON THE RIVERS WYE, USK, AND LUGG, IN THE WEST OF ENGLAND, AND ON THE TOWY AND TAFF, IN SOUTH WALES.

HAVING been four years fishing in the above districts, and each year taking out two salmon-trout licenses, I consider I have a right to publish what I have seen myself, and have authentic evidence of to produce. I do so in hopes that the Wye Conservators will at last see their way to put on day bailiffs as well as night bailiffs on the River Wye to prevent the wholesale destruction of parr carried on by "anglers," every season, and to prosecute hotel proprietors and fishmongers in the towns of Hereford, Hay, Usk, Monmouth, Carmarthen, and Llandilo. Fishmongers must know when "parr" are offered them mixed with "trout," and if the town police were allowed to prosecute, or, at least, examine the lots of fish hawked about openly in the evening, from 15th March, in the streets of above-named towns, this would help the Conservators' officers to obtain names, and let them put the law in force, not only with the class I allude to, but also many anglers who are well-known, and constantly have been seen pocketing parr. Last spring more than one person was heard in public to expatiate on "what capital dishes of 'parr,'" they had every day at one of the principal hotels in the city of Hereford for luncheon. This is authentic information. Trout in the Wye are not so plentiful or easily got as these Hereford epicures would have us believe, even from the poachers and professional anglers. Last season about one "trout" was cooked in this city for every hundred "parr."

I took out a license from Mr. Stevens for the season for his Hereford section of the Wye, my first appearance on this water: from first day of season to last day on the Wye, no one asked me to show it. In three other districts I am never out half a day without a water keeper requiring to see my license. This is as it should be on the Wye, but is not the only exception I know in my very large experience. I have printed rules that are in existence here as to size of trout. No one ever looked into my creel on the Wye last season—or any one else's, as I believe—or I should not have seen the undersized trout I saw taken. This is, or was, supposed to be a "grayling district." Last season, I found out gentlemen anglers regularly took grayling in the Lugg and Wye, of any size, all the spring, when they were on the spawning beds. This is an example of the barbarous customs now in vogue. One day, in extremely low water, and after weeks of unprecedented drought at that time of year, I was fishing with the smallest-sized salmon flies, when I landed two grayling, each over 2 lb., and three others, all over 1 lb.—all off, evidently, a very good grayling spawning bed. I returned these at once, unharmed. On my return home, mentioning the above facts to a lady, she exclaimed, "Did you really return such fine grayling? Rarely we see one 1 lb. weight."

Quantities under a ½ lb. were on the slabs in the day time at every one of the fishmongers' shops nearly every day all last April. I heard a few denounce this. One angling gentleman boasted to a friend of mine that he got, I believe he said, thirteen trout one day out of Lugg river, this being thought a "performance" on this water in April. My friend, being sceptical, asked for a sight of this beautiful and well-angled dish of trout with "flies." They turned out to be all, every one, small grayling, from 1 lb. down. It is simply awful, the fishing poaching that is carried on, without attempts to check it either by Conservators, or Associations, or private riparian proprietors all over this district. There is nothing approaching it in any part of England, Ireland, or Scotland, at the present time.

And, to conclude, and apologising for taking up so much of your valuable space, I will say that the outrageous poaching of all sorts of fish on the Wye and all its tributaries is only equalled by the state of things on the upper Tweed section of river above Peebles twelve years ago; but proprietors have become 'cute up there since then.

LAXORING.

[Our correspondent deserves the thanks of all sportsmen in the districts to which he refers for this exposure of the rod poaching, which appears to be carried on under the very noses of the Conservators. We have every confidence in his statements, and his position gives him exceptional opportunities for getting information at first hand. It is impossible to preserve a river properly when fishmongers and hotel proprietors openly sell fish which it is a breach of the law to have in possession at all. By the Salmon Fisheries Act, 1861 (24 and 25 Vic. cap. 109) section 15, it is illegal (1) "Wilfully to take or destroy the young of salmon; (2) Buy, sell, or expose for sale, or have in his possession the young of salmon." To wink at the capture and sale of samlets or "parr" is nothing more or less than a direct encouragement to poaching of all kinds, and it is a mystery to us how any board of Conservators can continue to permit practices which it is the chief object of their existence to prevent. The slaying of undersized trout and grayling, and of grayling during their spawning season, are things which no one calling himself an angler would think of doing, and the sooner anglers themselves take the matter in hand and discountenance any such unsportsmanlike proceedings the better. We know it is a practice in other grayling districts to kill this fish all through the spring under the pretence that it never gets "out of season" like trout. Nothing could be more foolish or absurd, and the only wonder is any fish remain, for grayling, unlike some other fish, will feed ravenously when on the spawning grounds; indeed, when trout fishing at this season, we have sometimes found it impossible to prevent them taking the fly. A grayling in the spawning season is not worth eating, and although it does not get so poor-looking as the trout, it is black and dirty-looking, and not like the same fish in September. It is true the grayling does not spawn until it is about half a pound or more in weight;

but this is no excuse for taking the fish while reproducing its species—"killing the hen which lays the golden egg," in fact. The grayling is far too valuable a fish to be treated in this manner, indeed no fish is so worthless as not to deserve protection at this season, unless, of course, it is desired to get rid of them out of a water. Large numbers of our readers are grayling anglers, and we earnestly ask them, in their own interests and in the interest of sport generally, to set their faces against the taking of this fish during its spawning season. One fish destroyed then means the destruction of hundreds which would otherwise have come to life to give them sport.—ED.]

MR. JARDINE AMONG THE PIKE AGAIN.

DEAR MR. MARSTON,—As I promised in my letter of the 16th inst. (the misprint of date, *i.e.*, July 16th, 1883, was a curious one),* I now, at your request, give a record of what I and my friend, Mr. H. Brett did; and you and my other friends who saw the fish know what excellent sport we had. We got afloat about 10 a.m. last Friday. The weather was warm, water clear, smooth as a mirror, and not a fishing day: but we caught fifteen pike, and towards 3 o'clock p.m. Brett ran a fine fish, which, after some exciting but skilful play on his part, I gaffed and landed. It turned the scale at 20 lb. The next day there was plenty of wind, and I knew we were "in for a good thing." Soon after commencing we saw two large fish "feeding." He got one on "pater" 18½ lb., myself the other on "snap," 22½ lb., and my next was 15 lb. All were well-fed fish, and fought like demons. The three largest have gone to Sander's to be "set up," and will make a handsome case.

Among my most painstaking pupils is my friend Brett, and his two largest fish were caught on "pater." He has become an accomplished pike angler, and has much perseverance. It is a treat to see him play a big fish; and I am pleased our catch was so equally divided. The analysis I give below. We were fishing water from 12 feet to 30 feet in depth, and therefore "spinning" was of no use.

Having received many letters from anglers requesting samples of my pike tackle, I have pleasure in informing them they can obtain the right makes at Carter and Sons; Mrs. Williams, Great Queen Street; Gowland's, Crooked Lane; Little and Co. and J. Gillett, of 40, Fetter Lane.

ANALYSIS.

Alfred Jardine, one pike 22½ lb., one 20 lb., one 15 lb., one 9½ lb., one 8 lb.

H. Brett, one pike 20½ lb., one 18½ lb., one 10 lb.

Also twelve others kept, weighing together 70 lb.; making a total of 195 lbs. In addition to the above, many small fish, of which no account was kept, were returned to the water.

Yours sincerely,

38, Old Change, E.C.

ALFRED GEO. JARDINE.

GREAT TAKE OF PIKE BY MR. SACHS.

MR. THOMAS RANSOM SACHS, of the Piscatorial Society, fishing at the invitation of a friend in private waters a short time since, had the good fortune to capture between 450 and 500 lb. estimated weight of pike. All fish under 6 lb. were returned to the water, and the balance taken away with them amounted to over 220 lb. The largest fish fell to Mr. Sachs, and weighed 20½ lb., his friend capturing one 19½ lb. They were all taken spinning and paternostering with a single bait.

Mr. Sachs gave a very interesting account of the take at the Piscatorial Society's meeting on Monday last, and his remarks were received with much applause.

He described the waters in question as being a combination of lakes, the largest about a mile long and proportionately broad. The smallest pike were at the upper end, but on gradually dropping down to deep water their success was wonderful, for at nearly every cast there was a big fish on. All the big fish were together, the smaller prudently avoiding the jaws of their sires and grandsires, who were certain to gobble them up if they came near. They caught so many that fish of 4 lb. or 5 lb. were considered little beggars against the others, which averaged from 6 lb. upwards; they were all caught spinning with large flights of hooks and paternostering with a single live bait. A sack had to be purchased to take them to London in. Mr. Sachs expects to go a day's journey to the same lakes soon on his own account, when he will show his catch at the Piscatorial Society, and also from another water next week. Mr. Sachs also caught a brace of good trout, which, by permission, he sent Captain Hobson, for the Aquarium. T. H.

[We cannot help thinking it was a very great pity Mr. Sachs did not treat the members of his club to a sight of this phenomenal take of pike; but in a private letter to us he gives his reason for not doing so, and, moreover, he says: "I hope to go there again soon; if so, I will ask you to accompany me, and if the weather suits I can answer for it, we shall have large pike and perch and good sport." Certainly, Mr. Sachs, we consider it part of our duty, as Editor of this paper, to permit nothing to stand in the way of our accepting invitations to a fish in a 20 lb. pike water.—ED.]

GEORGE JAMES EATON, of Starkholme, Matlock-Bath, Derbyshire, respectfully invited Noblemen and Gentlemen to try his standard FLIES for the present season. No flies sent or made up but what he himself has proved sure killers. A trial is all that is required from gentlemen who can fish, to prove whether they may be genuine or not. Patronised by some of the best fishermen of the day. All flies dressed on the best Kenal hooks. Prices Point Flies, 2s. 6d. per Dozen; Dropper Flies, 2s. per Dozen. Orders punctually attended to.—(ADVT.)

* This was a printer's error.—ED.

CLUB AND OTHER JOTTINGS.

By L. B.

THE usual monthly meeting of the West Central Association of London and Provincial Angling Societies was held at the Portman Arms, Great Quebec Street, Baker Street, on Friday evening, Jan. 18, Mr. L. Bonvoisin in the chair, Mr. W. Beckett occupying the vice.

After the passing of the minutes of the previous meeting, the secretary, Mr. H. J. Tibbatts, read a letter from Mr. Butler, the hon. sec. of the Reading and district Thames Angling Preservation Society. The letter was in answer to one from Mr. Tibbatts respecting the renting of the Lodden and Patrick stream jointly by the Reading and the Henley Associations, to the exclusion of many anglers who had been in the habit of fishing these waters. Mr. Butler's letter only restated what has already been made public in the pages of the GAZETTE concerning these waters, and concluded by inviting the West Central Association to elect Mr. Tibbatts to represent the London anglers on the executive of the Reading Association, in lieu of Mr. T. Hoole, resigned—an invitation at once acted upon by the unanimous election of Mr. Tibbatts.

Mr. Murphy next called attention to a letter which recently appeared in the FISHING GAZETTE from Mr. Knight, the hon. sec. of the Henley Association, which, in his (Mr. Murphy's) opinion, called for some notice. In reply to Mr. Murphy, Mr. Tibbatts asked leave to be allowed to read the letters referred to, together with the editorial footnotes. Mr. Knight's pompous sophistry, with its inflated paragraphs, redundancy of words, and the utterly intense selfishness and total disregard for truth which pervaded every line, created at first much amusement, which, however, gradually turned to disgust, and finally culminated in downright indignation, and called forth repeated cries of "Shame! shame!"

This model secretary of a Preservation Society, having under its care a long stretch of our free national river Thames, has made his coarse, and utterly unwarrantable attacks upon the character of men who have devoted the best years of their lives to the service of anglers and angling, without hope or wish for reward, and whose names will be household words with thousands when their detractor is utterly forgotten, or remembered only as the "Bumptious Secretary of the Henley Association." Mr. Marston's spirited footnotes, however, so capably dispose of Mr. Knight, that in the opinion of the meeting there was no immediate necessity to take official notice of these letters.

The next business brought before the Association was a letter from the Secretary of the Central Association, asking that his association might be allowed to send representatives to sit upon the committee of the Anglers' Benevolent Society.

After some discussion, in which Messrs. Murphy, Ghurney, Manning, Geen, Packman, Wheatstone, Beckett, Adeane, Hotham, and others took part, it was decided, by a large majority—twenty-three to two—

"That the question of the admission of the representatives from the Central or Third Association to sit on the executive of the Anglers' Benevolent Society, be referred back to the present committee of that Society as best fitted to deal with the same, accompanied by a strong expression of opinion from this meeting that the admission of such representatives is highly expedient.

Mr. Jennings was then elected to sit on the committee of the Anglers' Benevolent Society.

Mr. J. Lark, the hon. secretary of the Great Yarmouth Piscatorial Society, who was present during the whole evening, then spoke at some length, and most ably—with what result the following circular will show:—

"West Central Association of London and Provincial Angling Societies.

"Portman Arms, Great Quebec Street,

"Baker Street, W., January 24th, 1884.

"Dear Sir,—At the ordinary monthly meeting of delegates of the various clubs enrolled in the West Central Association, held on Friday, the 18th instant, we had the pleasure of receiving a visit from Mr. Lark, the energetic Secretary of the Great Yarmouth Piscatorial Society, who very ably laid before us the facts of the case in relation to the appeal of his Society against the decision of the magistrates *re* the right of fishing in Heigham Sounds. It was resolved:

"The West Central Association send £5 5s. to the Great Yarmouth Piscatorial Society, and that a circular be forwarded to each society enrolled in this Association, informing them of the same, with a strong recommendation to them to contribute as much as they can towards the fund for contesting the case."

"The appeal is expected to come on for hearing about February 10th, so that no time should be lost in responding.

"Subscriptions may be forwarded to Mr. Lark, 7, Ironmonger Lane, Cheapside, E.C., or to,

"Yours faithfully,

"H. J. TIBBATTS, Hon. Sec.

"46, Bishopsgate Street Without, City, E.C."

Those who would sneer at the Association for not contributing a larger sum must bear in mind that, with nearly four months to run before the yearages for privilege cards (from which the Association's funds are derived) are renewable, the Association's present expenses are within a few pounds of its income, so liberal has been its expenditure in the matter of paying rewards to water bailiffs, &c., and that a large portion of the small balance brought forward from last year will have to be utilised to defray current expenses.

Some routine business having been transacted, the roll was called by the secretary, the following twenty-seven societies answering to their

names.—Amicable Brothers, Anglers' Pride, Acton and Ealing, Bostonian, Battersea Friendly, City of London, Cambridge Friendly, Cobden, Duke of Norfolk, Golden Barbel, Good Intent, Gresham, Hammer-smith Club, Hammersmith United, Hampstead, Knights of Knight-bridge, North Wes ern, Prince of Wales, Princess of Wales, Queen's, Rodney Piscatorial, South London, Stanley, St. John's Wood, Piscatorial Waltonians, Westbourne Park, and Messrs. Ghurney, Chambers, Knight, Aldridge, and Manning from the United London Anglers' Central Committee.

A hearty vote of thanks to the chair and vice-chair brought the meeting to a close.

The annual dinner of the Westbourne Park Piscatorials took place at their home, the Pelican, All Saints Road, Westbourne Park, on Tuesday evening, between forty and fifty members sitting down to the capital repast provided. After the removal of the cloth some very good songs were ably rendered, a lot of valuable prizes being also distributed to the fortunate winners and a good list made up for the coming season. Mr. Geo. Evans filled the chair, and was, as usual, in rare good form. Mr. Adeane proving a most efficient vis-à-vis during the evening. A most interesting presentation was made to the secretary, Mr. Thompson, by Mr. Geo. Evans. The speeches were laudably short, and after making up the prize list, the remainder of the evening was devoted to conviviality and harmony.

THAMES RIVER KEEPERS' DINNER.

THE annual seasonable entertainment to the river keepers employed by the Thames Angling Preservation Society and the Thames Conservancy, together with the lock keepers between Teddington and Staines and several fishermen who have rendered effective assistance to the keepers, took place at the Station Hotel, Richmond, on Friday evening, January 18th.

Mr. Thomas Spreckley, President of the Thames Angling Preservation Society, occupied the chair, and Mr. W. H. Brougham the vice-chair.

Among the visitors present were Messrs. S. White, W. D. Lewis, A. J. Little, W. Dunfee, J. Smithers, F. H. Lemann, Joseph Andrews, W. Johnson, T. H. Taylor, Henry Little, George Evans, and Harrison, the two latter being members of the Westbourne Park Piscatorial Society.

Of the men present were G. J. Rough (Wandsworth), J. Barker (Kew), E. Wright (Isleworth), W. Smith (Richmond), Alfred Thompson and J. Newby (Twickenham), T. Tame (Teddington), John Johnson and George Mires (Kingston), W. Milbourne, Palmer, Scott, and Daniel Phillips (East Moulsey), Thomas Milbourne, James Drewe, and Henry Joist (Sunbury), George Hone (Walton), David Hackett and Richard Smith (Shepperton), Charles Godfrey and W. Watford (Chertsey), and C. Godden (Penton Hook).

Of the fishermen who had assisted the keepers there were H. Mansell, Job Brain, and H. Howard, of Richmond, and Charles Hone, of Staines.

The dinner was supplied by Mr. John Munro, was of his usual excellent character, and included the proverbial York ham of 35 lb., which was carved by the Chairman and liberally supplied to the men. It took some time to discuss all the good things so liberally served by the respected host, and when all was over the loyal toast from the chairman was as loyally responded to.

Mr. Spreckley then remarked on the happy duty he had to perform, as an evidence of esteem to each from some kind friends who had been anxious to mark their appreciation of the satisfactory manner in which the men had discharged their duties during the past year. The first was from Mr. F. H. Lemann, an old and valued member of the committee of the Thames Angling Preservation Society, and consisted of a handsome tobacco pouch, with the initials of the society outside, and filled with choice tobacco. Mr. Lemann did not forget the chairman and secretary, and having their initials embossed outside. The next presentation was from Mr. R. B. Marston, the Editor of the FISHING GAZETTE, which was prefaced with the reading of a very kind letter from Mr. Marston, and heartily applauded by the men. The gift consisted of a copy for each of "The Book of the Roach," by Mr. Greville-Fennell. The next presentation was a pipe, by Mr. W. Johnson, of Twickenham; and the last, though not least, by Mr. Spreckley himself of his accustomed present of a box of first-rate tobacco, "Sweet as a Rose."

The whole of these liberal presentations were handed round separately by Mr. W. H. Brougham, and at the conclusion of each loud cheers were given to the donors.

The only toasts that were given consisted of "The River Keepers," and replied to by Mr. H. Little, Mr. Alfred Thompson, and Mr. G. J. Rough; "The Chairman" (Mr. Thomas Spreckley), and "The Secretary" (Mr. W. H. Brougham), the latter remarking these entertainments had been originated by him fifteen years ago, and there were present that night men with whom he had worked in the protection of the fishery for over a quarter of a century.

The remainder of the evening was entirely devoted to harmony, the men rendering some capital songs, recitations, and sentiments; and, in addition, Mr. Smithers amused them with the recitation of "The Young Raven," Mr. Thomas Spreckley sang "Widow Machree" in splendid style, Mr. W. Johnson gave a comic song, and Mr. H. Little and Mr. T. H. Taylor gave some excellent melody.

The proceedings were brought to a close at ten o'clock, and all separated, highly delighted with the evening's entertainment.

DEXTER.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

W. B. SMITH, Camberwell.—You cannot obtain or use a railway privilege ticket (*i.e.*, by fair means) unless you are a member of one of the clubs enrolled with one of the associations.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

Several letters are held over for want of space.

NIGHT ANGLING ON THE THAMES.

SIR,—If I could have followed my inclination and refrained from any attempt to vindicate myself from your very adverse comments on my last letter on this subject, I should have been content with the silent protest of indifference; but silence would inevitably be misconstrued into acquiescence or the admission of defeat.

As an angler acquainted with the Thames for nearly half a century, I cannot at all defer to the pretensions of some of the leaders of the public-house fishing clubs of our present time, nor see any reason for suppressing condemnation of their aims, tendencies, and mode of support. I know, indeed, how many (yet comparatively few) kindly disposed, single minded, and generous men have linked themselves with the principle of associations of the angling fraternity; their countenance and unselfish sympathy should have led to results less surrounded by objectionable circumstances.

I do not know Mr. Geen personally, nor in the face of all the facts as they exist am I able to form an opinion of the value of his assertion that the prohibition of night angling in the Thames was not intended. But he must know that intentions do not govern the interpretation of law, and the Judges have often pointed out that the law must be administered by its sense, which must be critically ascertained, and not according to any alleged intention of the Legislature not manifested.

I am not about to claim more than the ordinary faculty of rational understanding, yet guided by some relevant experience in cognate matters, I still affirm that the new By-law prohibits all night fishing, while all the ingenious efforts to apply the legal principle, *expressio unius est exclusio alterius* fail palpably. What can be plainer in meaning than this?—"No person shall—fish 'from any vessel, boat, or punt' for [fish] 'or, take or attempt to take' above Richmond Bridge, any fish, except in the daytime, &c." The structural force of the By-Law is most evident on analysis. The disjunctive conjunction, "or," by the common rules of composition, separates the By-Law into two distinct actions prohibited, and the minor one of using a boat to fish from is, of course, covered by the larger general prohibition, and is a mere redundancy.

The old "Upper Thames" By-laws of 1869, Rule 9, Section 4, contained the prohibition in identical terms, as without Mr. Geen's interpretation, and no one ever complained of it, but, on the contrary, it was a valued restriction on poaching.

The older, "Lower Thames" By-laws (below Thames) held no such prohibition, obviously because the old customary net fishings were mostly followed by night, and there was no distinction made between fishing with an angle and by net.

Mr. Geen should also know that the Conservancy could not make any rule or By-law "for the express purpose of permitting night angling from the bank." They "could not" make any such By-law, because they have no power whatever to do so, and therefore the idea is incompatible with fact as well as illogical that forbidding fishing from banks does amount to permission to fish from the banks.

Within about two months from the date of the allowance of the new by-laws the Board made a distinct explanatory order that "bank fishing is not to be allowed between sunset and sunrise"; and, therefore, the conclusion is irresistible that, Mr. Geen's assertions notwithstanding, the Board did not yield to his insistence on the point, but gave him something which proves to be nothing.

The Thames banks are beyond all question, in nearly every locality, private property, and within only the last two or three weeks the Bench at Marlow have convicted a man for trespass on the tow-path. And here let me offer another warning against the aggressive pretensions and offensive conduct of London Club anglers of a certain class. I have lately received expression of approbation from various quarters as to my strictures upon these multitudinous intruders who make a seventh day's labour in taking fish; including a suggestion to form a society of owners and residents to warn off, by appointed bailiffs, these bank fishers altogether under the law of trespass. Surely this is a phase of the situation which will suggest discretion as the better part of valour. These conflicts are not the outcome of the pursuit of legitimate sport, but the resistance offered in defence of adjunctive interests that have overlaid the modest purposes of recreation and amusement.

It is useless to place any reliance upon the action of another organisation in support of common rights. The definition of public and private rights, as claimed on the Thames, would involve enormous law costs, quite beyond the possibility of being met by any voluntary means, and a general issue could never be tried out. There is no solid doubt that the public have rights of fishing in the Thames, which are by immemorial user and indefeasible, but those rights are certainly "on the water" and not from the land or banks anywhere, except by sufferance, which can be arrested at any time, or by consent of owners. At one time netters who were lawful fishers had some right to draw their nets on to the bank; but netting being suppressed, this long disused right no longer remains.

To return. As to the two men taken at Henley, I must correct Mr. Geen's state of "facts" in GAZETTE, January 5th. The men were locked up (under regulations of police) because they did not give correct names and addresses.

Only one had a railway privilege ticket, and his correct name was found on a bricklayer's time-sheet found in his box.

They did give names and addresses, probably correct, after they were in custody, when it was too late.

Colonel Makins, M.P., one of the magistrates who sat specially to hear the case, is a gentleman of full experience and competent judgment; he decided at once, without any prompting by the prosecution, what is the effect of the By-law.

Every part of the proceeding was temperate and lenient in conduct and

spirit; and lastly, if it is of any consequence to say it, I have no idea of repudiating the action in any respect.

Neither the honorary bailiff nor the police officers are open to the stigma of ignorance.

In conclusion, I must remark that you have thought it not beneath you to launch a sneer at this Henley Association and the honorary secretary. I enclose you a copy of the last report for information on such points as will explain the status of the Association, which is not an angling club; and for myself, after nearly forty years of public official life, and not quite unknown in the City of London, I can afford to be indifferent to the quality of the prejudiced estimation that seems to have infused into your remarks everything but the virtue of impartiality and the grace of politeness.—I am, &c.,

Henley, Jan. 22.

J. W. KNIGHT, hon. sec.

[Mr. Knight's letter came to hand so late that we have had difficulty in finding room for it, and have little space in which to reply to it. He sends us the report of the Henley Preservation Association for 1883, which shows that the association is doing (as we have often previously pointed out in this paper) good work in the preservation and protection of the Thames between Shiplake Lock and Temple Lock. We wish that some other associations on the river did their work half as efficiently. If Mr. Knight had restricted his exertions to minding his own business, instead of getting London club anglers punished for doing no wrong, and gratuitously insulting the whole body, as he does again in the above letter, he would never have had anything to complain of in our treatment of him. Instead of confining himself to a statement of his views regarding the intention of the by-law relating to night fishing in the Thames, he saw fit to launch out into violent abuse of London club anglers in general and of the President of the West Central Association in particular. Because we, feeling indignant at this treatment of those we claim in some measure to represent, ventured to defend the interests of London anglers, and treat Mr. Knight to a little of the physic he so liberally dispenses to others, he complains of our lack of politeness and impartiality. We should not have imagined that one who has so repeatedly proved his utter want of courtesy and politeness, and lack of respect for the feelings of others, would have been so thin-skinned himself. If he imagined that we should consider it our duty to allow his contemptuous sneers at London anglers to pass without remark, all we can say is he was mistaken. We consider them as uncalled-for and as groundless as his attempt to twist the plain English of the by-laws to suit his own views. In his own report we find the following copy of the by-law in question:—

Unlawful Acts. Thames Conservancy By-law No. 10:—"No person shall do, aid, or assist in doing the following things, or any of them, that is to say:—

"(d) Fish from any vessel, boat, or punt, for or take, or attempt to take, any fish except in the day-time, that is to say between the beginning of the last hour before sunrise, and the end of the first hour after sunset."

We leave it to the common sense of our readers to say whether the above plain English can by any process of reasoning be construed into including the prohibition of angling from the bank at night. We know many of them agree with Mr. Knight in thinking that night fishing of any kind should not be allowed, and we have never thought of disputing his or their right to think so. Many people think that the sale of beer and spirits should be prohibited, but they do not pretend that because the law restricts the sale of drink in certain specified cases, it prohibits its consumption under any circumstances. This is a fair illustration of Mr. Knight's attempt to include the "bank" in a by-law which distinctly specifies other and totally different things. But the best way to settle the matter would be for the Conservators to accept Mr. Geen's challenge to test the matter in a court of law.—ED.]

THE CRAZE FOR RESTRICTIONS ON ANGLING.

SIR,—With reference to the correspondence relating to the "Thames Fishery By-laws and Night Fishing," which recently appeared in your paper, we seldom hear of a more irregular proceeding than the imprisonment of the two anglers for fishing from the banks of the Thames after sunset. It is to be hoped that this stringent enforcement of the disputed law, which appears to have been harsh, will call attention, and tend to put an end to much of the vexatious agitation which has been proceeding for some time past with respect to applications for Acts of Parliament, and the passing of by-laws for further interference with the modes of Thames angling. Such meddlesome action tends to bring about the result which has drawn forth the correspondence on the right of bank fishing in the Thames at night. There appears to be constant agitation going on for the alteration of the fence months, the sizes of fish to be taken, the prohibition of trailing for jack, live baiting for trout, and other practices. These and other vexatious matters, and threatened proceedings against the pursuit of angling, must prove to be a source of great annoyance to the majority of Thames anglers, who, no doubt, desire to pursue their favourite pastime with the same peaceful freedom they enjoyed in former years. Consistently with the proper preservation of this free fishery of the river Thames anglers should be subject to very few restrictions. The growing policy, on the contrary, seems to be to inflict on them as many as possible. Angling, even under the most favourable conditions, is at all times such a precarious pursuit, that it appears to be questionable whether an extensive fishery like the Thames would ever become the least injured by rod fishing; therefore, every possible indulgence should be shown to the increasing number of anglers. The destruction of fish life, which must take place from natural and other causes, some of them preventable, probably, by far outnumber the chances by capture of rod and line.

It is questionable whether jack and eels ought not to be treated as vermin, and every encouragement should be given to lessen their number, these being so destructive to trout and other valuable fish.

The Thames being a place of popular resort for all classes of anglers, all rules and regulations respecting the fishery should be framed to meet the requirements of the majority, and not the apparently ever-changeable notions of the minority. Rigid restrictions to rules of the most sportsmanlike character may be better fitted for the benefit of minor clubs or private waters than likely to contribute to the popular, and successful management and preservation of an extensive public fishery like the Thames. Is it not likely that the various preservation societies of the river would become more popular and their funds be increased, if they would turn their attention more earnestly to fish-culture, also endeavour to restrain and repair the injury caused to the fishery by steam-launches, swans, floods, pollutions, and numerous other destructive agencies?

To seek more the detection and prosecution of poachers than the interference with anglers is required; but too much attention to the latter object has apparently tended to encourage the representatives of the law in adopting such rigorous measures as those exercised against the two unfortunate anglers previously mentioned.—I am, &c.,

R. D. E.

FISHING AT CARSHALTON.

SIR,—There are two ponds in the centre of Carshalton, Surrey, being expansions of the River Wandle. A resident friend informed me they could be fished from the high road without interference, provided you did not endanger travellers with your flies. Could you, or any of your readers, corroborate this statement?—I am, &c.,

RED QUILL GNAT.

Lincoln's Inn Fields.

[The law gives no right to fish from a road, or to shoot from it, or to take fruit which can be reached from it. Why should it?—ED.]

TROUT HATCHING, &c.

SIR,—At this season (trout hatching) of the year a few hints to amateurs in trout rearing may be acceptable, seeing they do not appear in many, if any, of the many books published on the subject, and of which, from practical experience, I quote.

1. Avoid suddenly opening the hatching boxes or troughs to the daylight, and also shaking or jarring the ova in same.

2. When examining ova placed in or on gravel, should any of the round pebbles deceive as appearing like the berry of the ova, remove it forthwith. It will only deceive you, and delay progress.

3. The colours of dead ova are crimson and purple, as well as opaque.

4. Avoid if possible exposing ova to gas or candle light.

5. It is well to commence feeding the ("Alevins") young fry before the umbilical bag is quite absorbed.

6. The best food, in my opinion and practice, is bullock's liver baked and finely grated.—I am, &c.,

FRANK GOSDEN,

Fish-culturist to his Grace the Duke of Wellington.

EEL CULTURE.

SIR,—I, for one of your readers, should be very glad of an article on the above, as you kindly suggest in your last number. I should also be glad, if you could spare room, for a little article on fresh water shrimps. Professor Gunther maintains that the richness of colour in salmon and trout is due to a crustacean diet, and there is little doubt that where cray fish and water shrimp abound, the quality of the fish is much improved. I saw an account in some paper of two gentlemen who reared them to feed their trout on; but I unfortunately lost the article and their address. In rearing fish to the greatest advantage, it seems to me to be as necessary to provide them with a cheap variety of diet, as it is for the farmer to grow a variety of crops for his stock.—I am, &c.,

Stafford, January 14th.

STRETTON.

[We have made a note to put in a description of eel farming as soon as we have space. The references to the fresh water shrimp and Mr. Andrews and Mr. Silk was a footnote of ours to an article on fish culture in our Christmas Number.—ED.]

WATERPROOF LINES.

SIR,—Will Mr. Howse kindly tell me whether his paraffin dressing could be applied to a silk and hair line for fly-fishing? I have tried almost everything in the way of prepared lines and am not satisfied that I have yet got the really best article to be had.—I am, &c.,

H. S. HALL.

FISHING AT HUNTINGDON.

SIR,—I beg to call attention through your valuable paper that on Wednesday, January 16th, I took, in two and a-half hours, from the Ouse at Huntingdon, 4½ brace of jack (weight 25 lb.), with Mr. Jardine's snap tackle, and lost three—one the fault of my line, it having a flaw and broke, the other two not being fairly hooked. I had no less than eight runs in one hour. Perhaps there are some of our association members who would like a day or two down on this river.—I am, &c.,

Camberwell.

J. T. FOVARGUE.

[What is the charge for day tickets? We have written to Mr. Rout.—ED.]

TROUT-FISHING.

SIR,—Could any gentleman inform me where I could get trout-fishing about South Devon, Cornwall, or Wales, with worm only, and in February; if not, some good river where I could get large roach and pike. Having to take my holidays so early, I should be very thankful for information.—I am, &c.,

G. J.

[The earliest trouting is on the North Devon streams (see advt. under Fishing Quarters). At Mr. Vickery's, Torcross, you would get pike, perch, and roach-fishing.—ED.]

TRENT FISHERY BOARD.

At the Leek Petty Sessions, Staffordshire, on Wednesday, January 16, Mr. Robert Rushton, silk manufacturer, Leek, and a man and boy in his employ were charged with, on the 8th December, it being close time, catching, not for artificial propagation, and not having the permission in writing of the Board of Conservators for the Trent fishing district, certain trout from a stream near the river Churnet at Barford. Mr. Eddowe, of Derby, prosecuted on behalf of the Trent Fishery Board, and Mr. Aylmer defended. The facts of the case were admitted, and the only point disputed was as to the written permission of the Conservators being required. Evidence was called to show that Mr. Rushton had for the past two years been in the habit of artificially propagating trout, and always turned the fish back into the water again, after he had secured the ova and likewise the small fry when they were hatched. He knew nothing about a written permission being required, and the Board took no pains to make it public. In an abstract of offences against the Fisheries Act published by the Board no mention of this was made. The Bench fined Mr. Rushton the nominal penalty of 1s., the cases against the other two defendants being dismissed. Costs were asked for but refused.

LONDON RIVERSIDE FISH MARKET.—The City Press states that all the arrangements for the carrying out of this project are now complete, and that the erection of the market buildings at Shadwell will be at once proceeded with.

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RIVER REPORTS.

TIME OF HIGH WATER IN THE THAMES.

To find the time of high water in the Thames at any of the following places, to the time of high water at London Bridge (given below).

	30 minutes for Chelsea.
Add	40 " Putney.
	45 " Hammersmith.
	50 " Barnes.
	55 " Kew.
	75 " Richmond.
	80 " Twickenham.
	85 " Teddington.

Example:—If it is high water at 2 o'clock at London Bridge, it will be high water at Teddington about 3.25, or eighty-five minutes later; but it must be remembered that a strong wind accelerates or retards the tide very much.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.

	Morning.	Afternoon.
For Saturday, January 26	12.38	1.1
Sunday, " 27	1.23	1.43
Monday, " 28	2.2	2.22
Tuesday, " 29	2.40	2.57
Wednesday, " 30	3.16	3.34
Thursday, " 31	3.53	4.12
Friday, February 1	4.33	4.53

NOTE.—New Moon, January 28. Probable High Tide, February 1.

THE LOWER THAMES.

GENERAL REMARKS.

Large barbel continue to be taken at Teddington, and proves the mildness of the season. Dace fishing is the principal sport in the tidal waters, and some fine roach have also been taken. During this mild weather some attempts should be made to get amongst the jack and perch. There is only one good take of the latter, and the fishermen say it is the fault of the anglers, who do not come down to catch them.

Richmond.

Mr. King with C. Brown, in one day, 11 lb. of roach, and the same fisherman, in two other days, 15 lb. of roach; Henry Wheeler, in three days, 36 lb. of good roach and dace; H. Mansell, in two days, twenty-one dozen of roach and dace; Mr. A. J. Little with Job Brain, a nice chub of 3½ lb., and the same fisherman in two days, sixteen dozen of roach and dace; Mr. Pavely, in one day, with Henry Howard, sixteen dozen of dace, and the same fisherman, in two other days, ten dozen; Mr. Piper, with J. Bushnell, a jack of 7½ lb.

BANK ANGLING.—The following fish have been registered at the Jolly Anglers:—Mr. Fuller, 3½ lb.; Mr. Mason, 5 lb.; Mr. Cox, 2½ lb.; Mr. Webber, 3½ lb.; Mr. Bugler, 7 lb.; Mr. Green, 7 lb.; Mr. Skelton, 3 lb.; Mr. Martin, two dozen; Mr. Davis, three and half dozen; Mr. Miles, 2½ lb.; Mr. Roberts, 2½ dozen; Mr. Cannon, 6 lb.; Mr. Branch, jun., one dozen, and Mr. Weber, 2 dozen, and at the Waterman's Arms, a jack of 2 lb. 9 oz., and a roach of 14 oz.

Twickenham.

Mr. Hilton and friend with John Spong, in one day, 16 lb. of roach, and the same fisherman in three other days, 39 lb.; George Coxen, in four days, 80 lb. of dace; Richard Coxen, during the same period with Mr. West, 51 lb.; John Coxen, sen., in one day, 18 lb. of dace, and John Coxen, jun., 16 lb.; Mr. C. Miles, of the Queen's Head, and Mr. G. Wright, of the Swan Hotel, in two days, eight brace of perch and two small jack; one being too small, was put back in the river. Angling reverses the old adage, "Two of a trade can never agree."

Water in first-class condition. J. Spong, in three days, 27 lb. of roach and dace; R. Meffitt, one day, eight dozen of dace; Pert Hammerton, in two days, 33 lb. of roach, dace, and three perch. Myself with Pert, three dozen of fine roach in two hours, being rather too rough.—W. WALKER.

Teddington.

Benjamin Stevens, during the week has taken twelve dozen of dace and eight barbel, the largest 5 lb. Joseph Stevens, in one day, a fine barbel of 9 lb., another of 6½ lb.; two others of 3 lb. each, and one of 2 lb. The three latter were returned back to their native element, and affords a good example of what ought to be done; the two fish retained were worth taking away. Two other good barbel are said to be taken at the same place.

Kingston.

A gentleman fishing in his own boat has taken a jack of 3½ lb. John Johnson, sen., in one day, twelve dozen of fine dace, some weighing eight ounces each.

BANK ANGLING.—There have been some very good takes of roach, dace, chub, and perch, at Kingston, Surbiton, and Thames Ditton.

East Moulsey.

William Milbourn, during the week has taken twenty dozen of fine dace some weighing ¾ lb. each, and Charles Davis, in one day, a splendid show of, eighteen dozen of good perch up to 1 lb. each.

BANK ANGLING.—At Tagg's Island Hotel Fishery there has been some good business done amongst the roach and dace, several of the roach weighing 1 lb. each, and some jack up to 3½ lb. each. There is no better bank fishing in the Thames than on this large island, and considering the small charge that is made it ought to be more largely patronised. At Hampton there have been some good roach taken during the week.

Sunbury.

Messrs. E. Clarke, in one day, eight dozen of fine roach up to 1 lb. In this district upwards of one ton weight of fine perch were put in from the Chelsea Water Works Reservoirs, and something should be heard of them from the anglers.

Walton.

George Hone, with Mr. Mackrill, one day, a bream of 3 lb., another of 2 lb.; two chub of 1 lb. each, and two brace of perch; another day with Mr. Abbett, a jack of 2 lb. Mr. Hicklay, with John Hone, one jack.

BANK ANGLING.—Mr. Whiting, one good jack of 5 lb., another angler, two or 5 lb. each, another angler, one of 2 lb., and another angler four fish, the largest 4 lb. These results should make jack fishing from the banks at Walton decidedly popular.

Weybridge.

Mr. Winton, who has achieved great piscatorial success in this district, has again put in an appearance, and fishing with J. Upsden, report says "he has been getting some fine chub."

Docket Point.

James Haslett, one day, a couple of bream, one perch, and some good roach, and another day, nine perch and one jack; the latter being too small, was put back again. There are some nice jack in this portion of the Thames, and one especially is known to some of the fishermen, who estimate his weight at about 18 lb.

Weather very rough, wind blowing a gale. There is only one or two quiet nooks to fish. Water in good order, expect a rise next few days; if so, the roach will come to grief, as there are plenty of good roach in this part, if we can only hit them right out. On the 19th, nine perch, one jack put back. On the 22nd, thirteen perch, one jack, one chub, 3 lb. put back in the river. Hope to send you good news next week as regards roach.—JAMES HASLETT.

Staines.

John Keene, in three days, thirteen dozen of roach and ten chub. John Keene, jun., in two days, twelve chub, the largest 3 lb., and thirteen dozen of roach and dace, and E. Keene, in one day, seven dozen. The Pack Horse Hotel, which has been rebuilt and considerably enlarged, is well suited to the business capacities of Mr. Bright, whose assistance in regard to the fishery entitles him to the support of the anglers and angling clubs.

Datchet.

I am pleased to report an improvement in the appetite of the jack in this neighbourhood. C. Baxter, Esq., on the 20th, with J. Hoare, two jack and a trout, about 8 lb.; three jack broke away. I was with a patron on the 20th, with the forlorn hope of getting some perch. Only got two. With the same gentleman on the 21st, had ten runs with jack, landed 62, small ones returned. The roach still continue to bite freely. To-day (Thursday) water in the best of order.—G. LUMSDEN.

Goring.

Water now in good order for all kinds of fishing. Time now is getting very short. Gentlemen who want some good fishing, now is the time; jack and perch are on the feed. My best day three jack and one chub, and two dozen of perch.—JOHN RUSH.

Shepperton.

The water is in very good condition, there is very good prospects for jack, perch, and roach fishing. Gentlemen fishing in their own boats have been taking a fine lot of roach. I should only be too pleased to send better reports. If the fishermen were more patronised at Shepperton by gentlemen anglers, I should be able to do so. There was fifty bank anglers down on the 21st, inst. neither of them did any good, the water being too low for them. There was not one fisherman out.—W. ROGERSON.

UPPER THAMES.

The river, from some inexplicable cause, has not been rendering up the sport expected from the marvellously excellent condition of the water. From men with sou-westerns on, I gleam that the reason of the fish not biting is because of snow having fallen "Ensham-way." From men with a punt pole in their hands and an expectancy of a pint of beer about them, I gleam that "snow must have fallen somewhere," and from knowing river-side men who on being asked the question, first look on the water, then into the clouds, and severely studying the chances of being tipped a tanner, tell me that snow must have fallen somewhere—taking all this non-conflicting evidence into consideration, I have arrived at the conclusion that snow must have fallen somewhere, and upset the otherwise all round chances of excellent sport. From Cookham I hear that Godden has been very busy amid the roach in these splendid waters, getting on one occasion 30 lb. At Marlow, Mr. Faulkner with Captain Conliffe has had good sport amid the perch, three dozen of them being decent half-pounders. Mr. Dobel, with Mr. C. Footitt, the excellent host of the Complete Angler Hotel, at Marlow, got some half-dozen runs with jack in an hour on Saturday last, and bagged four decent fish between 4 and 5 lb. each. Mr. O. Wright, with "Tipney" White, at Marlow, got three jack, going together 16 lb. on Thursday; on Friday, killed two jack, 11 lb.; and on Saturday, welled three dozen roach, the best scaling 1½ lb. At Hurley, Mr. W— and Mr. T—, out with the ex-Black Boy, on Saturday, got some three dozen roach and two small jack. Mr. Birch, in the Hurley waters, is credited with some capital roach and perch; and the frequenters of the Bell, on the 20th, got 25 lb. of roach.

Thursday evening.—A tremendous storm of wind and rain visited the Thames valley yesterday. This will perhaps take the "snow" out of the river and improve the angling.—MARLOW BUZZ.

Oxford.

On Friday Mr. Stephen Davis landed a magnificent chub, weighing 5½ lb.

from the lower Cherwell, this being about the largest I ever remember being taken in this district. On Saturday Mr. Boscott and his friend Mr. Jones had three nice little fish, going 2½, 2½ and 2 lb. On the 20th inst., at Bablock Hythe Ferry, Mr. Fell grassed another beauty of 14 lb., measuring 18 inches in girth and 3 feet 2 inches from eye to fork. Lower down from Cassington Mill Cut to King's Weir, about 45 roach were taken by various people, amongst them two of 10 lb. and 4 lb. by Messrs. Gellingham and Marsh. Good bags were the order of the day; several fair fish being reported from the pot stream and the lower river. On Tuesday, Mr. Geo. Payne, above Godstow, had a 22-pounder, and in Sandford Pool Mr. Smith grassed a beauty, scaling 14 lb. 1 oz., and also lost a bigger one, which he has gone out to-day in the hopes of interviewing once again. The first fish must evidently have been a connoisseur in tackle, as he contained, when opened, no less than nine hooks. On the preceding day, Mr. Holloway at the Whale bagged a five pounder, and to-day, Thursday, Mr. Tanner had two small fish near Godstow. The Cherwell has yielded fairly good results, a nice bag being made by Mr. Vincent and a friend one day last week. Yesterday the water, owing to the heavy rains at the beginning of the week, came down very thick, but with a continuance of the mild weather which has set in, I think we may look for something worth recording being done. A fine dog otter was recently taken at Abingdon; since Messrs. Hills' last turn on the Cherwell, six years ago, the "varmints" have been undisturbed, and if the remains of the fish so frequently picked up in the watermeadows are to be taken as any criterion, they have greatly increased and flourished.—MEDLY TROUT.

Ancholme District

The continuance of fine weather has been productive of continued good sport amongst the roach and perch. Spawning time will, I opine, be early this season, owing to warm temperature. The laws for the Riverhead Fishery will, I believe, be signed to-day. Ticket holders will be confined to the north side of the beck and ponds, but, as the length is about 1½ miles, there will be ample room. The place is exceedingly well-stocked, and, as a consequence, the close time will not be observed. The chief fish are pike, eels, roach, dace, perch, bream and gudgeon, with an occasional trout. It is the intention of the lessee to develop the latter fish, and to thin down the former. All tickets will expire at the end of the year. They will be ready in a few days. The prices are:—For day tickets, 1s.; season tickets, 5s.; and family tickets, 2s. and 10s. respectively. No limit as to size of fish will be observed, and anglers can commence at the Riverhead Cross Roads and fish as far as South Kelsey Mill, lock included. Interim permits may be obtained of your correspondent.—THOMAS FORD Caistor.

Chichester.

With finer weather sport has materially improved the past week. Perch have been fairly on feed, some good fish coming to hand. Roving, with "shiners" as live bait, has proved most successful. A well-conditioned pike was taken in the basin on Tuesday, but I am sorry to see numerous unattended lines and rods at work daily, vouching for the honesty of the Cicestrians, but not for the ardour of the anglers—looking much like pot-hunting. At Selham, some good roach and dace were taken by Mr. Young. The water is now in excellent condition.—GEORGE F. SALTER.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

Bad weather again has kept rodsters at home some few days this week, and fish in the summerlike days have not been on feed. A few bream, some small roach, and small pike are all I can vouch for. On Thursday, Mr. W. Coombes took a jack of 3 lb. from the basin. On Monday, when live bait fishing for perch, I had a run with a heavy fish—pike, I presume—my fine gut tackle parting at once. Pike latterly seem to prefer small baits of 2 oz. or 3 oz.; several have been taken with shiners (small fry). From Selham I have no news this week. Pike are plentiful in both waters. With a few days' frost I hope to send a more favourable report.—GEORGE F. SALTER.

Dove.

The weather has undergone a complete change since I last wrote. A severe storm set in on Wednesday (or rather Tuesday night), and raged without intermission for fully thirty-six hours. The appearance of the river quickly became changed; the water, which had been low and fine, turning into quite a clayey consistency, while the wind blew a perfect hurricane, doing no end of damage in the district. For the next few days fishing operations are practically stopped. Previous to the storm there had been some moderate takes of grayling, the average, perhaps, not exceeding three brace per rod. The killing flies were the red bumble and the blue dun. Trout now keep rising at the grayling fisher's flies, and there can be no doubt that the specks are in a very forward condition.—THE SPODGER.

Exe (Exeter).

I have only a scanty report this week, as we are busy with the opening of the Conservative Club, and politics are the order of the day. Some perch were taken in the canal the early part of the week with minnow. Beyond this I have not heard of anything doing.—J. A. KELLEY.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

I hear some nice pike were taken near Cowley bridge early in the week, one 7½ lb, with live dace, and also some fair sized perch near the Limekilns. Salmon prospects are most promising; the fish got back to sea early in the fall, and the mild winter will bring them up the rivers early, and I should say that the early salmon anglers will have a very prosperous time of it, and eagerly awaiting the opening of the season.—J. A. KELLEY.

Ilfracombe.

Sea fishing: During the past week fishing has been very good, and the prospects are such as to encourage the belief that we shall have a most successful season. I jot down the weights of some of the largest fish taken: B. Williams, one cod and two congers from 18 to 20 lb each; G. Rudd, same; J. Scamp, one large conger 20 lb. Very large craw fish taken. J. Bushen, one conger 30 lb, one cod and one skate; S. Brown, one large cod; S. Williams, ditto; T. Davie, one large ling; T. Vound, ditto. Several fine string of whiting pout, taken by amateurs fishing off Lee and the Freshwater. Fishing from the pier and rocks slack. Weather very boisterous; wind blowing hard from the S.W.—E. COMER.

Lakes of Killarney.

The first days on the lakes were by no means good for the anglers; the weather was calm, dead and heavy, and very little wind. On the 16th Jan., the first day the Glenna nets got 15 salmon, the largest 16 lbs.; Muckross, 4 salmon, next day 9 salmon, do, 11 salmon; Glenna one salmon; Caharnane, 9 salmon, the largest 18 lbs.; Eugene Thangany, on the upper lake, got 6

salmon, the largest 41 lb., the biggest fish killed in the lakes for some time. The rod fishers got one each day, the names—Tim McCarthy, Pat Robert, Frank Robert, Tom Murphy. On the 21st the Muckross Net got 10 salmon, Glenna, 4 salmon. Next day the Muckross Net got 21 salmon, the largest 28 lbs.; next 27 lbs., and so on. Tim McCarthy, 2 salmon, 25 lbs.; Robin Robert, one 12½ lbs.; Waterwill, Co. Kerry, about 60 salmon. For the past week the celebrated John Bradley, fisherman, tells me that for the last ten years there was not so many salmon seen as were seen this year going up to the lake; he says there ought to be great fishing at Waterville this year. At Glencore also the fishermen say that there is a lot of salmon to be killed with the fly on the 1st of Feb. They have lots of water to come up all the winter, and hope to have good sport there. As I write this it is a real Killarney shower, hoping to last for the usual 21 days.—TIM MCCARTHY, Fisherman.

Lark and Ouse.

Roach feeding well, especially in the Lark, red paste being the favourite bait. Several large perch were taken last week near Prickwillow, and several good ones at Mildenhall. Netting is going on bad as ever near Isleham. It is a great pity it is not stopped. Mr. William Howlett, of Newmarket (one of the committee gentlemen), fishing last Saturday, took over 30 lb. of splendid roach. Antony, fishing with him on Wednesday, took nearly 30 lb more in such condition, perfect pictures. We hear Mr. Howlett is making great efforts to secure the Lark for angling from Icklingham to Mildenhall, where, being preserved by Mr. Owers up to West Row, a splendid run of ten miles of good water would be had.—H. MERLIN.

Leicester.

Taking into consideration that we are fast approaching the end of the coarse fishing season, anglers seem to have lost none of their zest for the sport, as fair numbers may be seen day after day at the river side hereabouts, pursuing their favourite pastime. Upon the whole their endeavours, since my last report, have been very satisfactorily rewarded—a number of capital takes of chub and dace have been had. In one basket of dace I saw two fish that weighed 22 ozs. and in others there were fish that would average from 8 to 10 ozs. Chub have been biting well, several fish being taken, one 3 lbs. Messrs. Gladstone, Keen, and Hobbs, were especially to the fore among this kind of fish. Pike fishing improved during the latter part of the last and early portion of this week, Mr. O. Bird taking some nice ones from the Aylestone brook. The violent storm of Wednesday considerably marred the sport, as it not only blew a perfect hurricane, but was accompanied by heavy rains. On Thursday the weather was clear and very cold, but a welcome change after the severe storm of the preceding day.—ALERT.

Lea (Broxbourne).

Yesterday's rain has considerably discoloured the water, which will not be in condition for all round fishing before Saturday. During the past fortnight I have turned into Carthage Weir sixty rudd, twenty jack, and ten trout.—KEEPER.

Lea (Ponder's End).

The water will be in splendid condition for the next few days. There have been some very nice chub taken, 2½ lb. to 3 lb. in weight; also some good jack, between 4 lb. and 5 lb. Chub are taking live bait.—H. PUDDICOMBE.

Lea (Waltham Abbey).

On Jan. 20th Mr. J. Myers one jack, 6 lb. 9 oz.; Mr. Guiver one jack, 6 lb.; Mr. Bayley one fish, 4½ lb. On Monday and Tuesday the roach were feeding a bit, the water now being very thick. If no more rain, very good for Saturday and following days' fishing.—PENOIL.

Lodden.

Sport during the past week has been very indifferent, a few jack have come to grief, but the large pike still holds his own in the same hole, where he is daily to be seen; but since he felt the three successive shocks of cold steel, he seems to have the jaw ache, and refuses to feed. A gentleman promised him a relish yesterday; but of all days it was one of the roughest witnessed for many years. There was no facing the storm at all, the wind and rain being terrific, limbs of trees blowing in all directions, also the thatch from off the ricks in the farm yards were carried hundreds of yards from their position. The river is rising fast, which no doubt will stir up some of our monster eels again. The rain has subsided, but the wind is still very high.—FRANK GOSDEN.

Lugg and Arrow.

Both these rivers are very little different to last week; they are a little higher and slightly discoloured. A very good day's fishing was had in the Arrow on Friday, when a gentleman landed a basket of grayling weighing 6 lb. with the grasshopper. On Saturday a gentleman visited the Lugg and landed a very nice lot of fish with the same bait. The Shobden water was visited on Saturday, and a very good basket was caught with the grasshopper, and some very good ones were taken with the worm. On Monday a gentleman tried his hand in the Arrow with the grasshopper, when some fine grayling was landed averaging from ½ lb. each, and a few good ones were taken in the Lugg. A gentleman visited the Earsland waters and landed some very good fish with the grasshopper on Saturday. There has been but little doing in the water at Bodenham. Some very good fish landed in the Ivington district with the worm. On Tuesday a gentleman visited the water and landed a small lot of grayling and a small pike with the grasshopper. Some very fine trout have been taken out of the water, dead, this week. The Pinsley is but little altered since last week. On Saturday a gentleman landed some very good grayling with the grasshopper, and a few were taken with the worm. On Monday another nice lot was taken with the grasshopper. The weather here looks very threatening for a heavy storm.—GWYNNE.

Medway (Tunbridge).

During the end of last and the commencement of this week sport was fast and furious, pike being caught both above and below the town in good numbers. The rain on Wednesday has, however, thickened the waters, and angling will have to be postponed for at least a few days till it settles down again.—YE MEDWAY WATER RAT.

Nene (Northampton).

Since my last report some nice bags of fish have been taken, W. Smith killing 25 lb. of pike in the lower water of the Nene Angling Club; Mr. Rimmitt one of 4½ lb. W. Turner killed a brace of nice perch, weighing 3½ lb. G. Johnson has been having some good sport with roach in the Borough Free Water. Eli Bullock has been having some good takes of pike, chub, and roach; his roach bait paste being so tempting that a water rat paid him a visit, taking his bait in about 4 ft. of water, and got hooked by the lip, and landed, and killed.—T. F.

North-East Yorkshire (Pickering).

All streams around are now nicely down again to a good fishing level. Grayling have risen very badly. We have often noticed this to be the case in mild, soft, warm weather. On January 10th, a couple of anglers, fishing a private water, managed thirteen grayling between them, weighing 20 lb.; several of these fish were over 2 lb. each; all taken with red worm. Another angler tried Pickering Beck, with fly, but could do nothing but catch small grayling of 6 inches or so, which were returned to the water—a practice much less honoured in the observance thereof than it ought to be, at least, by some would be sportsmen, whose only motto is "Kill, kill, kill!" Many salmon are heard of in the rivers around. The Rye, at and above Helmsley, swarms with them. In the Dove, Severn, and Lower Derwent many pairs have been seen spawning and jumping at the dams. We hear of sundry having been picked up stranded—in one case an 8½ lb. fish. The stranding was assisted by a hay-fork—ahem! In another, a 14 lb. female salmon, the stranding was assisted by a charge of shot. On Tuesday, January 15th, noticed the fly, February red, first time this year.—NORTH-EAST.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

Ouse and Ivel (Blunham)

The rain we have had this week has improved both these streams. Roach have fed freely, and some good sport has been had.—T.E.

Ouse (Huntingdon).

The river has been in splendid condition for fishing until Wednesday evening, when a rather thick water came, which has made it unfishable for a few days; but the back water might be fished. Nothing has come to my notice since the 20th inst. On that day I took in 2½ hours seven pike and lost two, the three largest weighing 7½, 6¾, and 6½, the 7 weighing 3½ lb. I took them with dace from 4 to 5 inches in length, which I find are the best killing bait.—H. ROUR.

Ouse (Littleport).

Not much to report this week, as there has not been much encouragement for anglers to turn out; for, though the water is in splendid condition, and the weather perfection apparently, I have a fancy of my own that it is much too mild for January. Every fish that is taken out now feels like a lump of ice in the hand, which, as every angler knows, is a bad sign for sport. The following are most of what has been done here since last report:—January 19th—Mr. J. George, Cambridge, 10 lb. nice roach; another angler out, same date, only got four roach. January 20th—Mr. J. Hutt, Cambridge, 3½ lb. roach; Mr. Franz Hentschel, Cambridge, 3½ lb.; Mr. H. C. Stearn, Cambridge, 3½ lb.; Mr. Mole, Cambridge, among a few others, a nice roach of over 1 lb. (the anglers on this date only fished about three hours). January 21st—Mr. C. A. Vinter, Cambridge, about 5 lb. roach. January 22nd—Mr. S. O. Beeman, Littleport, with the wind blowing great guns, caught 8 lb. good roach in 4½ hours.—CHAKLIE SOUTH.

Severn (Shrewsbury).

The weather up to the last three days has been everything that could be wished, but since then rain and wind have been the order of the day. On Thursday I went up as high as Melverley, on the Verniew, and that river is at present higher than it has been for some years. At Montford Bridge it is also much higher than it has been this year, and is still rising. The riparian owners have issued the notice which I mentioned last week, which notifies that any one found netting or night line fishing after the issue of this notice will be prosecuted. Little or no angling has been done since I last wrote.—SEVERN SALMON.

Teme (Ludlow).

Fishermen have had a good time of it in this district, until Tuesday, when a storm of wind and rain came, and put a stop to all angling. On Wednesday we were visited with a gale, and rain at intervals, which coloured the river and raised the stream a few inches. Fortunately on Thursday morning the sun rose brightly and the gale passed over without doing any damage, and in a day or two the Teme and all its tributaries will no doubt be in 'good order again. Visitors to the Ony and Clun this week have been exceedingly limited. Fishermen up the Corve have been pretty fortunate, as some really good grayling have been caught in this direction, we saw several on Saturday which had been caught with the grasshopper; and the least of them was nearly 1 lb. weight. The Ledwyche in this district has not been visited at all this week, we think. In the lower part of the Teme a well-known fisherman, while fishing with the grasshopper landed a very nice pike, weighing 7 lb. Previously he had caught a pike, but could not land him, as the fish bit the gut through and escaped. The same gentleman caught in the Teme a very fine chub 2 lb. weight. A fisherman on Monday caught some very nice roach below Ashford. There is now every prospect of the weather clearing up, and we may expect frosty nights as the thermometer is falling.—S. LUDLOW.

Teme (Tenbury).

This water was in splendid condition up to the 23rd, when the heavy downpour of rain has completely upset the state of the water for some time. On Friday, the 18th, a visit to the Ledwyche was rewarded by landing a nice lot of grayling with the grasshopper. In the Teme, above the town, a very good basket was taken with the same bait. On the 19th a gent visited the water near the bridge, and landed a very good lot of fish with the same bait. Above the Little Hereford Bridge a gent landed a splendid basket of grayling with the grasshopper on the 19th. A gent visited the water on the 21st, and landed a very good dish of perch with the worm, and a good lot of grayling was landed with the grasshopper. In the Ledwyche, on the 21st, a gent landed a nice lot of fish with the grasshopper. On the 22nd a gent had a very rough day's fishing, his line being continually blown into the bushes, and was with difficulty got out again; but he managed to land about half-a-dozen small grayling. There has been seen a favourite visitor to the water this week in the shape of a very large crane, who has done very good business, having been watched taking some very good fish. A gent hooked a salmon a few days back, but could not land it as his line broke in the middle. The salmon are still to be seen about here sporting. It is hoped there will soon be a heavy flush of water so that they can go down the water again. The Kyre and Rea are both in good order, but very little doing in them.—WORCESTER.

Torridge (Torrington).

The fishing for trout begins in North Devon on Friday, the 1st of February, should the rivers be in order. It is likely they will sport early owing to the mildness of the season; the flies are on the water, and trout have been seen sporting already. Salmon are very numerous and are seen sporting in all the pools and runs. I wish we were allowed to fish for them, but are forbidden by the Act.—PRACTICAL ANGLER.

Trent (Newark).

During the latter part of last week and the beginning of this the water was in capital form for chub and pike fishing. A good few anglers availed themselves of the very favourable weather, the majority going in for chub and pike; but as far as I can learn, no very sensational bag has been made; the best catch of the week was a take of nine fair chub out of the Collingham and Carlton waters. Some other anglers had a brace a piece, and odd fish only were taken by one or two others. I was out for an hour last Friday, but only got one chub, but it was a very fine one. Several well-known pike anglers have been out. I asked one or two of them what luck they had had, but the reply was, "not a single run"; and as far as I can glean, the pike have not fed at all during the week—that is in this district. We have had a change in the weather during the last two or three days, the fine weather being succeeded by storms of wind and rain, which have once more spoiled the water for chub and pike fishing, for, at the time of writing (Thursday night), the river has come down very much discoloured, and is nearly bank full, so that angling prospects are not very bright for this next week. A roach or two might be got by fishing the quiet eddies close to the bank, with the little cockspur worm; but that game will be hardly worth the candle, if the water comes on the next twenty-four hours as fast as it has the last—for it is now nearly the colour of mustard, and tearing down like a mill race. So I am afraid anglers will have to rest on their oars for a week, and be thankful for small mercies. I saw to-day, close to Newark, a flock of no less than eighteen wild ducks all of a cluster. A well-known Newark angler, I am sorry to report, has met with a very serious accident. He got his foot badly crushed at the Ironworks last week, and the limb had to be amputated close to the knae. The last report I had as to his condition was that he was progressing as favourably as could be expected under the circumstances.—THE TRENT OTTER.

Trent (Nottingham).

A remarkably fine week has favoured angling operations immensely in this district. The river has not only been very low but exceptionally clear for this period of the year, and chub and pike rosters have mustered in considerable force. One of the chief drawbacks in connection with chub-fishing of late has been furnished by the large quantities of refuse poured into the river by the great brewery companies at Burton-on-Trent. From some cause or other, when this stuff is coming down fish of all descriptions show an apathy in feeding, and it has often happened that many of our most experienced and talented "adepts" have returned, after a hard day's fishing, disgusted, and with empty baskets. A few lots of chub were killed at Shardlow and Sawley on Wednesday and Thursday, and the subscribers at Wilford did fairly well, pith and brains proving the attractive bait. Some pike have been brought up from the lower waters, and on Wednesday, if I am rightly informed, Mr. S. Sills bagged a choice basket of bream.—THE MAN AT THE CLUBS.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

On Thursday the river in this district was running at a great height, and was thickly charged with colour. During the week anglers have mustered in considerable force, but the refuse from the Burton breweries has militated against sport. Whenever this stuff is running down anglers fare badly. The fish, certain it is, thrive on it and will not under ordinary circumstances look at a natural bait. Sixteen or seventeen pike have been taken out of the allotment near Thrimpton, and some nice fish have been captured at Sir Henry Bromley's.—THE MAN AT THE CLUBS.

Waveney (Beccles).

Water in splendid order for angling. Weather beautifully fine. I can only regret that so few anglers take advantage of the good opportunity which now presents itself for good winter roach or pike fishing, to enable me to chronicle some good takes. Not like your Oulton Broad correspondent, who in last issue said, "It is a long way to come from London and its neighbourhood for such small fry." I would give our London friends a little more encouragement than this, and can assure them that, if they would only come and give the Waveney a fair trial, I am positive they would not go home with empty baskets. In fact, if they are real good anglers and selected good swims (of which there are many), they would most probably be able to take to their London Club friends something worth seeing and something worth coming from London after. There are big roach, perch, and pike in the river, and only require a little skill on the part of the angler to effect a capture. Owing to high tides, which always drive the larger fish from the Broads further up the rivers, some good pike were taken; several being captured near the Stone Bridge by Mr. M. Mills, weighing from 3 lb. to 6 lb. Anglers should take note of this, as invariably after high tides good jack of 10 lb. and upwards have been taken. For the further information of London anglers who are strangers to this district, and who may intend paying us a visit during the coming season, let me say that the river is not more than eight minutes walk from the railway station, and boats may be obtained at Smith's or Wright's, either of whom will be found very obliging, the charge per day being 2s., and those who intend spending a few days will find good and comfortable accommodation at Mr. T. Wright's, White Swan Inn, or those who prefer more luxury will find the King's Head or the White Lion all they wish for. There are many miles of fishable water which can be obtained by staying at Beccles, and many noted spots for all kinds of fish within easy distance. On reading the above, some of your readers may say that enough has been said; but my reason for saying thus much is that the Fisheries Preservation Society get so very little encouragement for their trouble from the very of an falsely circulated report that there are "no fish in the Waveney," put forth by those who really do not know, and who do not take the trouble to fish at the right time or at the right place, and I hope what I have said may result in bringing some good fishermen down. Wind west. Prospects most favourable.—A WAVENEY ANGLER.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

Water during past week has been in first-class order, but to-day (Thursday), owing to boisterous winds accompanied with rain, is slightly coloured. Roach have been feeding well, and jack fairly so. Mr. M. Mills on Friday last landed a 12-pounder, which was seen by your correspondent, and was a fine full fish. This was caught in Thames style with roach for bait, and was captured within a mile of the town. This again goes to prove what I have previously said, that there are good fish to be had, and that without going far for them. Present prospects pretty good, with a strong wind blowing from West.—A WAVENEY ANGLER.

Wharfe (Yorkshire).

The delightful weather that we have experienced in this district for the past fortnight has abruptly terminated in a fearful storm of wind and rain, and which I am afraid will result in an immense amount of damage; this morning (Wednesday) the river was overflowing its banks, and as the storm has con-

tinued the whole of the day without intermission, I need hardly inform anglers that there will be no chance of wetting their lines this week.—FRANCIS M. WALBRAN.

Wye and Derwent.

Both on Friday, Saturday, and Monday good sport was had on the Derwent chiefly by swimming the worm in the eddies of the streams, and baskets of mixed fish up to five braceper angler were made. The fly fishers all did well on Saturday. One gentleman on the higher Derwent got four brace of good grayling, and five trout, which he threw back, the trout being in good condition, all killed with claret bumble and furnace flies. Since Monday night, we have had quite a hurricane blowing, all over Derbyshire, accompanied with a great quantity of heavy rain, which caused both rivers to be in flood. I hear the cleach nets on different parts of the Derwent did well with their nets while the river was in flood. To-night (Thursday) both rivers are rapidly running down, and the river will be all right by Monday for either maggot or worm fishing, if no more rain falls. Weather fine, but very cold. No fly fishing on the Wye for another week at earliest.—Geo. Jas. Eaton.

Yore (Hawes.)

On Tuesday we had by far the heaviest flood for the last twelve months. From early morning the rain fell in sheets, and the wind S.W. By noon the whole of the fields above Hawes bordering on the river were under water. Streams of immense size burst from the sides of the surrounding hills, and came rolling down at a tremendous rate. I am afraid much damage will have been done to the spawning beds. It is an ill wind that blows nobody good. This flood will I hope set our friend's (Mr. Walbran) "throng" off from Tanfield, and he will be no more liable I trust this season at least to be frightened out of his stockings. I am much obliged to "Watchett" in your last issue for speaking out so boldly in support of salmon being admitted to trout streams. I was afraid I was alone in my opinion that salmon do not cause trout streams to deteriorate in point of size and numbers, and when such men as Messrs. Ford and Walbran, spake so strongly against it, I began almost to quake at my temerity. When "Watchett" coincides with my opinion after mature consideration I again begin to take heart. It has been my experience that wherever salmon frequent trout and grayling streams, the latter fish are larger, better fed, and more numerous than in streams where salmon do not frequent. I mean, of course, in public water, or in waters under an association where a nominal charge is levied, and no particular exertions put forth to protect trout, such as I at present correspond for. The reason for the superiority of trout salmon streams is not far to seek. In winter the trout have plenty of food (salmon ova), and are protected, and in spring pinks are very toothsome morsels, and so trout are found in food all the year round. It is an unchangeable law that one kind should prey upon another kind and not unfrequently on its own. Now it cannot be laid to the charge of the salmon, that he destroys the ova of trout, as the grayling does, and yet the grayling is to be extolled, and the salmon described as miserable, emaciated, wretched, after performing the functions of nature, and providing the former with a superabundance of food. It is a well known fact that trout and grayling feed greedily on each others' spawn, and such is the pugnacity of the latter that in some streams the former are almost nil, and I am inclined to believe that did not the trout take refuge in "holds," he would soon cease to be where grayling congregate. I therefore conclude that salmon are to be preferred to grayling in trout streams. It is a great national loss that our waters are not made to produce to their capacity, and I hope soon to see the many miles of spawning beds above Aysgarth Force utilised. I know much s'ir was made when the board last mooted the subject, but selfishness, and not the good of the trout fisher, was at the bottom of it. I certainly think the licensing of rods would have been a very great hardship upon some of the working classes, whilst it would, at the same time, deter many of the same class making a living from the river, which is not at all desirable. If the Fishery Board conclude to admit salmon above Aysgarth Force, and do not put on too heavy a license to angle for the same, I do not think much fault would be found about here. I see the Fishery Board of Cumberland are about to charge seven shillings and sixpence in the head waters of some of the rivers under their jurisdiction, and I think a similar sum would meet with the approbation of many in this district.—JOS. CORRY.

Yore (Yorkshire).

During Thursday and Friday, last week, there was decidedly too much water for grayling fishing, and the same was the case on Saturday. On Monday, the river was just the proper height, and very much did my fingers itch to handle my rod, but business stood in the way. I saw two Harrogate gentlemen on Monday morning at Ripon Station; they were bound for Tanfield, but I did not hear how they fared—they ought to have done well. The weather in this district is remarkably mild for the time of year. I have seen primroses and snowdrops in bloom, and I heard of some blackberries being found a few days ago. I have had no opportunity of trying, but I have no doubt that grayling would rise at fly on the flats. Certainly, the present mild weather is not in favour of worm fishing, for which class of sport a sharp, frosty day with a low water is by far the best.—FRANCIS M. WALBRAN.

RIVER ALN.—We are glad to hear a movement is again on foot for taking measures to endeavour to put a stop to the wholesale poaching of fish by netting and other illegal means, which has been going on in a most open and systematic way for the last few years in this well-known trout river. A deputation, consisting of Messrs. James Storer, W. Robertson, and J. de C. Paynter, on Tuesday week, waited at the castle on Mr. Snowball with a memorial, petitioning his Grace the Duke of Northumberland to consent to the fishing in the River Aln from the Denwick Bridge to Alnmouth being placed in the hands of a committee, and fishing leave to be obtained by means of tickets, to be issued on payment of an annual sum, and for the appointment of watchers. After carefully perusing the petition, Mr. Snowball kindly consented to present the same to his Grace.—*Alnwick Gazette.*—[It is a thousand pities this fine bit of water is not protected as it deserves.—Ed.]

THE POLLUTION OF THE AVON AT WARWICK.—At the meeting of the Warwick Town Council on January 8th (Major Fosbury presiding), with regard to the alleged pollution of the rivers Leam and Avon by sewage escaping from the Leamington Sewage Works, a letter was read from the Leamington town clerk, stating that it had been decided to raise the sides of the sewage tanks so as to prevent the escape of sewage. The council regarded this as nothing more than a repetition of assurances made as far back as September, 1882, of which nothing had come; and as the two months' notice of action had expired, the town clerk was instructed to commence proceedings against the Leamington Town Council.

UNITY AND THE LONDON ANGLERS.

FROM time immemorial it has been said that "Union is strength, and disunion the reverse," and each of us has daily opportunities of verifying the truth of the proverb. Whether it be a family, a church, a nation, an army, a society—in each, as the case may be, happiness, increase of numbers, wealth, victory, or prosperity ultimately crown the efforts of those who act up to the proverb. There are many subjects concerning which differences of opinion are permissible; there are others which are mere matters of plain common sense, and from whatever standpoint they are considered, admit but of one construction. The unity of the London Anglers is one of these; every opinion that has been expressed in these columns by those best fitted to give such, from Mr. Geen to our worthy Editor, have been warmly in favour of the amalgamation of the London Associations, while no one has, so far as I have seen, advanced contrary views. From my own personal knowledge I know there are great numbers of London clubmen warm advocates of such union; indeed, we had it in "L. B.'s" "Club and other Jottings" only a week or two since, that "the whole of the delegates of the West Central Association of London and Provincial Angling Societies"—the most numerous, and probably the most influential of the three—"at a recent meeting voted unanimously in favour of amalgamation." Then, in the name of all that's rational, "Whose carriage stops the way?" What narrow interests, if any, set their paltry selves up in array against the bringing about of a consummation so devoutly to be wished for, and how much longer are they to be allowed to do so successfully?

It may be said such interests do not exist: so much the better. I frankly own I never have heard them clearly enumerated, but merely hinted at, in the same manner as they have been in the columns of the GAZETTE. Of course, there are a few—a very few—whose long years of good and faithful service would entitle them to be generously dealt with in the event of a successful amalgamation; indeed, such are, above all others, the men to be chosen by any future United Anglers' Association as officers and leaders. As for such as would foster the present state of disunion solely that they may gratify personal vanity by—owing to the number of associations, committees, sub-committees, societies, and the consequent multiplicity of officers—continuing to fill high places, they are not worth considering.

Mr. Geen recently wrote and read a capital paper on "The Better Organisation of the London Anglers"—a paper which was afterwards printed in the FISHING GAZETTE, and must have carried conviction to the minds of all thinking men who perused it. Mr. Geen's paper in its original form, though admirably suited for a reading, was somewhat lengthy, and from this cause many of the splendid points with which it teemed, which if more tersely and crudely put would have wiped out any puny and crotchety opposition and carried conviction to all honest minds, became considerably weakened. I would not make free to criticise Mr. Geen's labour of love in such a blunt manner were it not for the purpose of making a practical suggestion, viz.:—

That the paper be condensed, great prominence being given to facts, figures, and to the conclusions drawn therefrom; that the same be printed, and a copy posted to every club angler in London (about 4,000, whose names and addresses are all known); a few copies also to be sent to every club for the benefit of those who had failed to receive same by post, and as a further means of inviting discussion among members present. I do not think the total expenses of printing and postage would exceed £10 or £12, and the labour of addressing, divided among half a dozen willing pairs of hands, would not be overwhelming. After this I would suggest that the matter be again brought before the associations, whose opinions and votes would, I feel sure, be unanimously in favour of union. Should such, however, not prove so, there would always remain an appeal to the anglers direct by means of a mass meeting. Unity, union, amalgamation, better organisation, whichever one cares to call it, is more than possible—it is certain, if proper steps are taken to bring it about. But I would suggest to our Editor, to Messrs. Geen, Bonvoisin, Parker, and others who advocate it, that the writing of articles and papers, though it may pave the way, will not alone achieve this without more active measures are adopted; that at present you are drifting—very much drifting—while a lot of useful work that can only be properly dealt with by one powerful association is left undone. NEMO.

[We will undertake to reprint such part of Mr. Geen's paper as he thinks desirable, and send it to the secretary of every club with a notice asking him to bring it before the club, and ask the members to attend a public meeting of anglers, at some date to be fixed upon early in the fence months to consider this most important matter, if certain gentlemen we shall write to first respond favourably.—ED.]

UNSIZEABLE PERCH.—The Thames Angling Preservation Society on Monday week had a conviction by the Staines Bench of an angler taking unsizeable perch at Teddington, on the evidence of head river keeper Alfred Thompson and assistant river keeper, George Mires. Mr. W. H. Brougham prosecuted on behalf of the Thames Angling Preservation Society, and in opening the case referred to the fact that the stock of perch of late years had diminished in the river, and one of the causes would be the destruction of small fish by the anglers. In addition to the necessity of preventing this slaughter, there was also the necessity of keeping up a head of fish in the Thames for the large increase in the number of anglers, and as a proof of this great increase he stated that not many years ago there were about 50 angling clubs in London and the suburbs, and there were now 160. The society for which he appeared had no desire to make the law oppressive, but the question of small perch it was desirable to make an example, and the defendant could not plead ignorance of the law. The defendant upon this pleaded guilty, and remarked it was his first offence during a period of 50 years as a perch angler, and assured the bench it should not occur again. The magistrate fined him in the sum of £1, and 10s. costs, which were immediately paid.

CLUB REPORTS.

AMICABLE BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

Mr. Bryant, one jack 5 lb., perch 7 oz.; Mr. Medcalf, one jack 2 lb.; Mr. Taylor, roach 1 lb. 7 oz.; Mr. Partrick, roach 3 lb. 15 oz., dace 3 oz.; Mr. Dwelley, chub 3 lb. 7½ oz., dace 7 oz., roach 3 oz.—J. WORLEDGE.

BATTERSEA ANGLING SOCIETY.

The members of this club fished a match at Staines on Sunday last for two prizes presented by Mr. A. Sampson for roach only. Mr. H. Payne being first with 1 lb. 10 oz., Mr. H. Ford, second with 15 oz. The members of the Clapham Junction Angling Society paid a visit to this club on Tuesday last, when a most enjoyable evening was spent; the following being the principal vocalists; Messrs. Boisseau, Brenfield, Martin, and Smith, Wm. C. Hedges, G. Mumford, and H. W. Payne. There will be two prizes at Egham, on Feb. 3rd.—A. SAMPSON, Hon. Sec.

BERMONDSEY BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY

On Thursday two of the above members were out, and had a very good day's sport, Mr. Davison taking three dozen nice roach, weighing 14 lb.; Mr. A. Gafney, 4 lb. roach and dace. On the 20th, Mr. R. Gafney 5 lb. roach and dace; Mr. Frost, 4 lb. perch; M. A. Gafney, 2½ lb. roach and dace; and several other members took fish.—W. COURT, sec.

BRIGHTON ANGLERS' SOCIETY.

Mr. Geo. Saunders, jack, 3 lb., on the 20th. The fish now appear to be well on the feed, and, as there is a competition on the 28th, we expect a good show of large jack on the tables. Our annual dinner takes place at the Victoria Hotel, Queen's Road, on Wednesday, February 6th, at 7 p.m. Members and friends will be gladly welcomed.—A. H. DOLTON, hon. sec.

CITY OF LONDON ANGLING SOCIETY.

The following members weighed in on the 20th:—Mr. Gentry, a pretty show of roach, perch, and chub, from St. Margaret's; Mr. Castell, roach, from the Stort; and Mr. Chambers, roach, from Amberley.—CAS.

DALSTON ANGLING SOCIETY.

On the 20th inst. we had a very fine show of jack, roach, and dace, one jack scaling close on 13 lb.—S. MALLEY, sec.

EXCELSIOR ANGLING SOCIETY.

Few of our members were out on the 20th inst., but the few were well rewarded, Mr. Brown and Mr. Barnard having a splendid tray of roach and dace from the Colne; Mr. Pattison and Mr. Saffery also showing roach and perch from Weybridge. Having received a challenge from a member of the South-Eastern Angling Society to fish a member of the Excelsior Angling Society, the member has accepted the challenge to fish for five pounds a side. We are only waiting for arrangements to be made, of which I will let you know, when and how it is to be fished.—J. H. HOPKINS, sec.

GOLDEN BARBEL ANGLING SOCIETY.

The members of this society continue to have good shows of fish at their head quarters. On the 20th, Mr. J. Green had 6 lb. of roach, perch, and dace; Mr. Henrie, roach and perch; Mr. J. Stanton had a perch 1 lb. 2½ oz.; Messrs. Allen and Stoner also had fish. All fish were taken from the bank. On the 27th, our "friendly pool" will take place at Rye House. A carriage and pair will start from Portland Road at 7 a.m.—PIXIE.

GRANGE ANGLING SOCIETY.

On Thursday, the 17th inst., the above society had a fish supper at its meeting house, the Earl of Derby, Grange-road, when thirty-five members and friends sat down to a most capital spread consisting of stewed eels, fried soles, crimped skate, boiled cod and oyster sauce, potatoes, cheese and celery, which was catered for by Mr. Addlons, of 168, Grange-road. Mr. Hosken, the President of the society, took the chair, and Mr. Varney, one of the vice-presidents, the vice-chair. Among the guests and members present were Messrs. Mitcham, S'low, Frisby, Ward, Adams, Du Boche, Day, Gibbons, and J. H. Rich, the last two gentlemen being the originators of the Society. After the repast, Mr. Hunt, the treasurer, said grace.

The first toast, "The Queen and Royal Family," was given, after which Mr. Kimber made a few remarks. The song, "Nancy Lee," was sung by Mr. Riddle, followed by the toast of the evening, "The Grange Angling Society," same being responded to by Mr. Hunt, who in the course of his speech, said: This being the society's first fish supper, and strange to say somewhat of a novelty for an angling club, he was pleased to see so many of the members and their friends present, and with permission, should like to take the word "Fish" as a basis upon which to make a few remarks. Fish is the very thing upon which an angler builds his hopes and fears, as he is always wishing to have a good catch, for three reasons. First, he wishes to get a good specimen for preserving; second, is anxious to make a good show to weigh in; third, is looking forward to the annual dinner, when he hopes to secure some of the valuable prizes that are offered for competition. A good angler must have the following qualifications, and if by following the sport at his leisure, and in moderation, it should help to improve and strengthen him.
F Faith.—He must be possessed of a large amount of this to make a good angler.

I Industry.—No careless or idle man can ever hope to be a good angler.

S Sport.—It is a harmless and pleasant pastime, and tends greatly to the enjoyment of a day's outing.

H Healthful.—By getting the pure morning air, it assists in securing good health.

The remaining part of the toast list was then completed as follows:—Song, "Let each man learn to know himself," Mr. J. H. Rich; toast, "President and Vice-Presidents," Messrs. Hosken and Varney; song, "You and I," Mr. Leverett; toast, "The Committee," Mr. J. H. Rich; song, "The Powder Monkey," Mr. Croker; toast, "The Secretary," Mr. Kayes; song, "Sailing," Mr. Creasy; toast, "The Visitors," Mr. Mitcham; song, "Police Court Charges," Mr. Aldous; toast, "The Host," Mr. Varney; recitation, "The Sailor and the Jew," Mr. Hunt; toast, "The Caterer," Mr. Aldous; song, "Dream Faces," Mr. Neck; toast, "The Chairman," Mr. Hosken, who on rising to respond was greeted with great applause. Song, "Old John Barleycorn," Mr. Adams; song, "One more Glass before we go," Mr. Ryder; song, "Homeward Bound," Mr. Riddle. The songs and recitation were all

well rendered, and assisted in spending a most enjoyable evening. The meeting was brought to a close by Mr. Creasy singing "Rule Britannia," and "God Save the Queen."—W. KAYES, hon. sec.

GRESHAM ANGLING SOCIETY.

The ordinary weekly meeting of the above society was held at the Masons' Hall Tavern, Masons' Avenue, Basinghall Street, on Tuesday evening, the Rev. J. Walker, M.A., in the chair. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. A letter was read from the Chairman of the Executive Committee of the International Fisheries Exhibition thanking the society "for public spirit which it had displayed in coming forward to aid the enterprise," and expressing great pleasure in being able to state "that the financial results of the undertaking were such that no call would be necessary on the guarantee fund." Mr. Geo. Powell, of Worthing, was proposed by Captain Alfred, seconded by Mr. Cartwright, and unanimously elected a life country member of the society. In accordance with instructions given at the last meeting, Mr. Godwin, hon. solicitor, brought up a set of regulations for the pike fishing in the society's new water. These were fully discussed, and having been agreed upon, the secretary was instructed to furnish each member with a copy of them. Mr. Houghton, to whom the society is indebted for the possession of this valuable fishery, being present, the opportunity was taken to accord him a very hearty vote of thanks. Replying to this, Mr. Houghton expressed the great pleasure he had derived from this his first visit to the society. Several of the members had been out during the week, Mr. Field bringing up a very fine jack from the new water; Mr. Lake also weighed in some very good fish. A vote of thanks having been unanimously accorded to the chairman, the usual musical selections brought the evening to a close. A roach competition will take place on Tuesday next, the particulars of which have been furnished to each member.—H.

HOXTON BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

Few members out on the 20th. Mr. High had 15 lb. 3¾ oz. good roach, from Rye House; Messrs. G. Swinerton, A. Dean, and A. Hattemore had roach and dace. The members will fish for ten prizes on the 27th, at Mortlake, roach of the water.—G. GHURNEY, sec.

INDEPENDENT BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

A very pretty show of fish was placed in our trays on Sunday by several members who went out, consisting of roach, perch, dace, and gudgeon, Mr. H. Wilson being the most successful; Messrs. Clark, Leader, S. Wilson, G. Coomes, and H. Moore, being close behind. Our return visit takes place on Tuesday next, January 29th, at our new club house, the "Bird in Hand," Long Acre, W.C., host, Mr. Waldo, when we hope to see as many brother anglers and friends as can possibly make it convenient to attend, and we beg to inform them that we shall do our utmost to make them comfortable.—H. MOORE, Sec.

LINCOLN ANGLING SOCIETY.

Our members went out on the 20th inst., rather few in number, although a few nice roach and perch were brought in by the Brothers Blyth. A few more roach were weighed, but not of any extraordinary weight. We hope to have some better sport next week.—F. W. TODD, sec. pro tem.

LIVERPOOL CENTRAL ANGLING ASSOCIATION.

Several of our members were out one day last week, but owing to the weather being very cold and the water discoloured, the catches were not up to the average:—T. Smith, twenty-seven roach and one perch; G. George, twenty roach; R. Taylor, seven roach; J. Bright, thirty-five rudd. The above perch were taken with paste.—R. S. McQUEEN, hon. sec.

MORTLAKE PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

This society met at the club house, Queen's Head Hotel, Mortlake, on Tuesday, with a good attendance. During the evening it was announced by the chairman (Mr. G. Goldsmith) that, through the number of members being far in excess of what was at first anticipated, there would be an entrance fee to pay by those gentlemen joining the society after Tuesday, January 29.

NORTH-WESTERN ANGLING SOCIETY.

Several members out on the 20th, and the following weighed in fish in the evening:—Messrs. Underwood, W. Roxbee, and L. Roxbee, roach; Messrs. Grindley, W. Plumpton, sen., W. Plumpton, jun., and C. Plumpton got amongst the jack. The general meeting takes place on the 31st inst., when members are particularly requested to attend.—W. HILLIER, sec.

PECKHAM BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

George Durant was the winner of the match fished at Staines on the 20th inst., beating the "Poet" by 2 oz.; Messrs. Page, Stidolph, Bignall, and Parsons also had fish. The next match takes place at Wraysbury, on the 27th inst. A concert will take place on Saturday, the 26th inst., for the benefit of an old and very much respected member of this society. We shall be pleased to welcome any brother of the rod who can attend; chair taken at 8 o'clock by the "Duke," supported by "Sailor" and a host of others. Should this meet the eye of T. Hoole, will he kindly get the writer some of those "red worms" which he says are such a killing bait for the Fleet, and which we are not able to get here?—GADFLY.

PHOENIX ANGLING SOCIETY.

Our members were out on the 20th inst., but the sport was not very good. Mr. Slater, 5 lb. of chub and dace; Mr. Keen, 5 lb. of roach; Messrs. Bartrip, Pritchard, the Brothers Ash'ey, Paine, Milton, Packer, Reed, and Baillie all contributed, and made up a show in the trays. Half-a-guinea prize on February 3rd; go where you like.—W. ELBOURN.

QUEEN'S ANGLING SOCIETY.

The following members weighed in on the 20th:—Mr. Maddison, roach; Mr. F. Barrett, jack and perch; Mr. Walford, perch; Mr. A. Barrett, dace and chub; Mr. Pratt, roach; Mr. Wilkins, gudgeon.—L. WALFORD, sec.

RODNEY PISCATORIALS.

Our members visited Shepperton on the 20th, and were very much surprised to see the large number of anglers get out at the station on that occasion. During the past month or six weeks it would have been easy to count them on "yer fingers," but now they "come like an army." There were Woolwich Invictas, Woolwich Brothers, Deptford United, Golden Barbels, Walworth Waltonians, South London, and several other societies, each of whom were

making for its particular spot along the river. By the time we reached our spot, nearly all the others were lost to sight, and we saw no more of each other till the evening, either at Mr. Marsh's, over a cup of tea, or else at the Station. The following is the result of our competition:—Mr. E. Pyne, 1st, with roach, perch, dace, bream, and gudgeon, with which he won Mr. T. Hughes's two-guinea piece of furniture; Mr. Grant, sen., 2nd, with roach and dace, took Mr. A. Liversage's ros. 6d.; Mr. Arnsby, 3rd, with roach and dace, won the set of saucepans and the set of shoe brushes; Mr. Grant, jun., 4th, roach and gudgeon, a gallon of pickles; Mr. A. Liversage, a parcel of fruit, given by Mr. Diggins. Messrs. Hotham and Dodd also had fish. During the evening the conversation turned to Mr. Benningfield's offer to Mr. Lark, viz., if the last-named gentleman could get 2d. from every dozen London anglers, he, Mr. Benningfield, would give Mr. Lark £5. "Now, gentlemen, we are a very young club, and I do not think any of us have ever seen Yarmouth, and as things go at present, we are not likely to. A couple of days' fishing is about the extent of our holidays, but that is not the question. There are lots of London anglers who can go now, and as they are likely to be debarred from fishing there in the future if Mr. Lark and his friends lose the day for want of funds—I say, 'lads' let us all help one another. Who knows but that a time may come when we shall be able to go and fish these Broads? Let us be our mite now; and if every dozen anglers give 2d. each, it will be a great assistance to the cause of anglers in general, and I hope by its means we may be enabled to snap our fingers at a Henley secretary. Now, lads, 'down with the dust'; it is only a pint of beer the less to drink. Mr. 'Pixie' will you please forward 2s. for us, as we are only twelve strong at present, but hope to be stronger next season." I beg to state I have received 2s., and will forward the same to the committee.—PIXIE.

SOCIABLE BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

On the 20th inst. the following members had fish:—Mr. H. Woodhead, dace and roach; Mr. H. Mills, roach and perch; Mr. Taylor, roach; Mr. W. Woodhead, roach and dace; Mr. S. Jones, jack; and Mr. Hall, roach.—W.

STOKE NEWINGTON ANGLING SOCIETY.

Since the commencement of the new year several of our members have weighed in some good fish. The following contributed on the 13th:—Mr. C. F. Robinson, 5 lb. 15 oz. of roach, dace, and chub; Mr. T. Gretton, jack, 2 lb. 4 oz.; C. Martin, roach, 1 lb. On the 20th, Mr. Ed. Machin weighed a fine pike scaling 2 lb. 2½ oz. (it has been sent to Mr. J. Barrett, of Diss Street, Hackney Road, for preservation); Mr. C. F. Robinson, 6 lb. 1½ oz. of chub and dace; Mr. T. Gretton, jack, 3 lb. 5½ oz. Mr. C. Robinson gives a prize, value 10s., for the heaviest gross weight of any kind of fish taken on any Sunday up to the end of the season.—T. GRETTON.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ANGLING SOCIETY.

Messrs. W. and T. Evans had some good sport amongst the perch on Saturday, Jan. 12, each basket weighing 9 lb. each. Most of Mr. T. Evans' fish were taken paternostering, a mode of fishing which has been practised very little down here as yet, but is likely soon to become very popular both for pike and perch fishing. Mr. H. Evans had a day with the grayling, and succeeded in landing four brace of very nice fish, the largest weighing just over 1 lb.—J. HOLLINS, hon. sec.

THE BIRKENHEAD ANGLERS' ASSOCIATION.

Messrs. F. Poole and Charles Baxter, members of this association, availed themselves of the mild weather on the 20th inst., and proceeded to Capenhurst, some twelve miles from Birkenhead, on angling bent, and were rewarded (thanks to Mr. Baxter's patent paste) with half a dozen grand roach.—R. EDWARDS, hon. sec.

THE IZAAK WALTON ANGLING SOCIETY.

The members competed for four special prizes on the 20th instant, with the following result:—Mr. S. Ward, first; Mr. A. Bass, second; Mr. W. Wilkinson, third; Mr. B. Crook, fourth. The two special prizes given by Messrs. T. Dennison, jun., and B. Crook, are to be fished for next month, the two heaviest weights of roach taken on the Wednesdays will take them. Mr. G. Wood, had some nice roach and dace on Monday, Mr. G. Bliss had some handsome roach from the Colne on Wednesday.—H. B.

THE PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

Another very successful meeting of the members and friends of this society took place on Monday last, at Ashley's Hotel, Covent Garden, under the presidency of Mr. Edward Foreman. Among those present were—Messrs. Adlington, Bennett, H. B. Brown, T. Huggett, Bird, Fennings, Goodgear, Gray, T. R. Sachs, Harden, Perelli-Rocco, &c. Among the visitors was Mr. P. Geen. There was a show of pike upon the table taken by Mr. Harden. He explained that he had run each of the fish, had played them, and had nearly got them within gaffing distance of the punt, when they escaped. He had in each case immediately cast the bait again towards them, and had taken each of them on their second run. His health, as the successful angler, was proposed and duly replied to. The chairman gave a most interesting account of a day's chub fishing at Maidenhead, with that successful pilot, Ned Andrews, in which he explained that, after trying all the boughs and deep holes and the usual winter abodes of the fish without sport, they tried the shallows above the eel bucks, near Maidenhead Bridge, and were rewarded by a good take of chub, the largest weighing nearly 4 lb. His experience was that the weather having been so mild, the water was of higher temperature than usual, and the fish not in their ordinary winter quarters. Dr. Brunton made some

pertinent remarks on his favourite subject, viz., grayling fishing. He has been again upon the "war path," and has taken some good fish. The feature of the evening was an account by Mr. T. R. Sachs, who, during the week, with a friend, had a take of pike, from private water, of 500 lb in one day, the two largest weighing 20½ lb. and 19½ lb. respectively. The usual toasts of "Prosperity to the Piscatorial Society," and the "Health of the Chairman," which were duly responded to, brought this successful meeting to a close.—T. H.

UNITED BROTHERS, DEPTFORD.

On the 6th Mr. J. Payne, roach; J. Currans, roach. On the 13th J. Payne, one bream, 2 lb. 12 oz.; J. Currans, roach from the Thames. On Thursday, 10th, a South London United visit was paid to the above society at the Druid's Head Tavern, Broadway, Deptford, and I am very pleased to say that we had a very good muster of angling friends present, and I should think one of the best visits south side of the Thames. The chair was taken by Mr. W. Tyler, faced in the vice by F. G. Watts. Pianist, Mr. Gaston. The ball was set rolling at 8.30, and to enable those to catch the train that had a long way to go, the roll was called at 30 past 10. When thirteen clubs responded:—Bermondsey Brothers, Second Surrey, Rodney, South London, Anchor and Hope, Peckham Brothers, Wellington, United Brothers, Anglers' Pride, Excelsior, Gresham, Crown, Brothers, Deptford, City of London, and the following gentlemen contributed to the harmony of the evening, when some capital songs and recitations were given: Messrs. E. Currans, G. George, Stidolph, H. Tyler, Palmer, W. Wright, S. Seamore, Sale, W. Page, Wright, W. Watkins, Parkins, Fisher-Ockley, W. Tyler, F. Watts, Bignell (the masher), A. Copeland, (Gresham,) Grant, Burney, G. Copeland, (Gresham,) Baghall, Hales, Beddington, W. Divers, Hopkins, Booth, (Host), Crown Brothers, Deptford—a new society which we hope to have on the South London list this year. The ball was kept rolling fast and furious till 12.20 when the chairman had to inform the company present that there was only time for one more song, and a parting glass at the bar. Mr. Copeland sang the last song, "Old Lang Syne," when all present stood up hand in hand, and then comes the three cheers for the Gresham, ditto the South London United, ditto City of London, ditto Crown Brothers, and the United Brothers, Deptford, and last, but not least, three cheers for our worthy host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. W. Wood, and not being satisfied with that they started again, "He is a Jolly Good Fellow," till the barman cried out, "Act of Parliament, gentlemen!" I must thank Brothers Copeland of the Gresham and the rest of the London anglers for their kindness towards us for staying till the last moment, and hope they enjoyed their walk, and got home quite safe. But I am sorry to say that although the South Eastern had a good muster at their club house on Wednesday night, not one turned up to visit us. On behalf of the U.B.A.S., and our worthy host, who is a jolly and jovial fellow that will always do all that lies in his power to make all welcome, I must tender my sincere thanks to all who were present on Thursday last, for the kind manner in which the clubs on the south side of the Thames responded to the call of the United Brothers Angling Society. The next visit takes place at the Anglers' Pride, Five Bells, Bermondsey Square, when I hope to be present myself, with as many of my brother members as can make it convenient to attend. Wishing you all a happy and prosperous new year.—W. TYLER

P.S.—I see in last week's report the Tunbridge Local Club have presented the Water Balif with a complete suit of cloths, with the initials of the club in silver letters on the collar of the coat. I am very pleased to hear it; is not before it is wanted. Poor old gentleman! he wants something to keep the weather out; for a more deplorable object I never saw.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

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16	" "	5	5	0
18	" "	6	10	0
20	" "	8	8	0

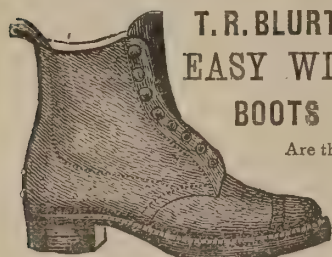
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Correspondents are requested to write on one side of the paper only, and give their real names and addresses, not necessarily as signatures to their letters, but as a guarantee of good faith. Unless this rule be adhered to, no notice will be taken of such communications.

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The Fishing Gazette.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1884.

IRISH SALMON EGGS FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF TASMANIA.

HOW OBTAINED AND HOW PACKED.

MESSRS. F. GREEN AND Co's steamship *Abington*, which leaves London about February 15 for Hobart Town, Tasmania, takes out a consignment of about eighty thousand salmon eggs for the Tasmanian Government. Mr. James A. Youl, C.M.G., whose many successful previous shipments of the eggs of salmonidæ to the Antipodes are described by Mr. Nicols in his work on the "Acclimatisation of the Salmonidæ at the Antipodes," has himself packed all the eggs, which were brought over by Mr. Herbert F. Brady, of H.M. Consular Service, China, and Mr. Nevin, manager of the Erne Fishery. At this late season there was naturally very great difficulty in obtaining the ova—in fact, it would have been impossible but for the kindness of Mr. T. F. Brady, one of Her Majesty's Inspectors of Fisheries for Ireland, through whose interest in the matter supplies of ova were obtained from Mr. R. L. Moore's fine fishery on the Erne, co. Donegal, from Mr. S. M. Alexander's fishery on the river Roe, co. Londonderry, and from Mr. R. J. Mahony's Blackwater Fishery, Kenmare, co. Kerry. The fish from which these ova were taken were stripped on the following dates:—

20,000 eggs from the river Erne, taken January 28th, 1884.
20,000 eggs from the river Roe, taken January 15th, 1884.
20,000 eggs from the river Erne, taken January 15th, 1884; and
20,000 eggs from the river Blackwater, Kenmare, taken on the 17th and 22nd of December, 1883, including a lot of eyed ova spawned December 1, 1883.

Mr. Youl, knowing that I took much interest in these attempts to stock the Tasmanian and New Zealand waters with salmonidæ, had promised to send me a telegram as soon as he heard that the last 20,000 eggs had arrived in London, in order that I might be present when he packed them in the manner which his experience of thirty years has taught him is best. On Tuesday last I received the following telegram:—"Mr. Herbert F. Brady informs me he will be at the office of the Wenham Lake Ice Company, 107, Strand, to-morrow morning at 9.30. I should very much like you to see my process of packing which has been so successful." At 10 o'clock I called at the office of the company, and was told that the packing was being done at their ice stores near Waterloo Bridge. There I found Mr. Youl and Mr. Herbert Brady. While I watched the very simple and sensible manner in which Mr. Youl packed the berries, Mr. Brady gave me some interesting information as to how the eggs had been obtained and brought to London. I never saw a finer-looking lot of eggs than the 20,000 from Mr. Moore's fishery on the Erne, and the parent fish were evidently perfectly healthy, for there they were in a tin box, ready to be placed in methylated spirit and sent out with the ova, this being done at the express desire of Mr. T. F. Brady, Inspector of Irish Fisheries. At my request, Mr. H. Brady had the fish weighed. The pair weighed 16 lb.—being exactly 8 lb. each. Of course, being spent, they were extremely thin and poor, but when fresh from the sea must have weighed from 4 lb. to 6 lb. more, at least. One fish (the male) had the strongly-developed "hook" or "beak" often met with in fish which have been long in fresh water—a malformation of the jaw caused by the poor condition of the fish, and its constant fighting with other fish, and turning up the gravel on the spawning beds. In this fish the end of the lower jaw had become bent back like a hook, and when the fish shut its mouth this point pressed against the roof of the upper jaw, nearly making a hole through it,

Mr. Brady told me he had seen a fish in which the lower jaw actually protruded for 2 inches through a hole in the upper jaw made in this way—like the staple through the link of a padlock fastening. The method adopted for stripping the fish is very simple. The fish is placed on a slanting board covered with baize in such a way that the vent touches the wide spout of an earthenware vessel. The operator then presses the fish carefully with a soft cloth, and the eggs exude into the spout and slide gently down into the basin, thus avoiding any shock or jarring, which is often fatal to the egg. The milt is then added in a similar way, and stirred up with the eggs without water. The process of impregnation takes about half an hour, after which the eggs are placed in glass bottles, with large mouths—six or seven thousand in a quart bottle, which is filled so full that the cork actually sits in the water. This is important, because it does away with the movement of the water to a great extent, and prevents the eggs from being tossed about during transit. The bottles containing the eggs (they will keep good two or three days in the corked-up bottles if the water is changed now and then) are then placed in a sort of cruet-stand—or partitioned wooden box, and this is suspended in a crate, and kept in position by strong india-rubber bands. Mr. Herbert Brady, who had this ingenious contrivance made, adopted the further precaution when bringing the eggs over of suspending the crate itself (a light wooden frame) from the centre of a bamboo cane. In this way all the shock and jerks of travelling were rendered harmless, and it would be wise of those who will receive the shipment at the other end if they adopt a similar plan. Mr. Youl's plan of packing is as follows:—He has a lot of perforated deal boxes made, about 3 feet long, 1 foot wide, and 6 inches deep. At the bottom of each box is a layer of charcoal, which, besides being valuable in other ways, helps the drainage away of the water. On this bed of charcoal Mr. Youl spreads a layer of ice chips and then one of live moss, which he obtains as fresh and green and with as much root as possible. This moss is washed slightly, but not so much as to take all the earth away, as this aids in keeping it alive. The beautifully-springy moss bed being prepared, the eggs are poured from the bottle in such a way as to distribute them as evenly over it and leave spaces between each as often as possible. Then comes another layer of moss, and another lot of eggs, until, with three or four layers, the box is full, and a final covering of moss and ice completes the work of packing. The lid is then screwed down, and the boxes put away, with lumps of ice on them, to await their removal to the ship. Mr. Youl had one of the boxes, which he had packed fourteen days previously, opened for our inspection. The moss was beautifully green—evidently growing—and the eggs appeared perfectly healthy. This was also the case with a box which had been packed by Mr. Herbert Brady, in Ireland. In this instance the eggs were all placed close together on muslin, and then the moss, &c., put over them. Mr. Youl was so pleased with the appearance of this lot that he said he would not re-pack them, but let them go as Mr. Brady had arranged them. It is a difficult matter to tell whether uneyed ova is dead or not at first, as, if unfertilised, it does not lose its colour and become opaque for a long time, or so soon as is the case with eyed ova. But the unfertile eggs can be distinguished from their being indented and not filled out so smoothly and plumply as fertilised eggs.

A large quantity of ice is packed with the boxes on board ship, and this ice is found most valuable at the end of the voyage in transporting the eggs over land to their destinations and preventing their hatching out too soon.

The result remains to be seen; and let us hope the Tasmanian Commissioners may inform us in what state the eggs in the different boxes arrived. All these eggs from the three Fisheries named have not cost the Commissioners anything, and it will be a great pity if they do not in each instance also inform the liberal donors direct of the result.

R. B. MARSTON.

SCOTCH SALMON EGGS FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF NEW ZEALAND.

A writer in the *Times*, describing a recent shipment of 60,000 salmon eggs obtained from Sir James Gibson Maitland's establishment for the New Zealand Government, refers to Mr. Youl's system of packing in moss as a failure. This, in face of the fact that the New Zealand and Tasmanian rivers are stocked with trout, the descendants of fish packed as ova in moss by Mr. Youl, is manifestly wrong. Many thousands of salmon eggs sent out by Mr. Youl packed in moss have also been hatched successfully at the Antipodes, and that, too, as long ago as 1864, and then the voyage in the *Norfolk* took about ninety days; whereas the voyage by steam is not more than from thirty-five to forty days.

It will be seen from the following account taken from the *Times* that the 60,000 eggs sent out by Sir James Maitland have been packed in a special apparatus which Sir James thinks very highly of. Of course we must all hope that this new and far less cumbersome method than Mr. Youl's will succeed, and an additional interest is given to both shipments by the fact that they will prove tests of the relative value of the two different methods of packing. Mr. Youl has succeeded in his attempts, and I think he is wise to follow the way which his many years of experiment and practice have proved the best.

R. B. MARSTON.

SALMON EGGS FOR NEW ZEALAND.—The New Zealand Shipping Company's chartered steamer *Ionie*, which left Gravesend last week, takes out a consignment of 60,000 salmon eggs, packed on an entirely new principle in order to keep down the temperature and retard the development of the germ in the eggs. The method hitherto adopted in sending out consignments of ova to the Colonies has been to surround the cases in which the eggs are deposited with blocks of ice, which it was too often found, besides taking

up a large space and adding much to the cost, melted *en route*, causing the destruction of the eggs it was intended to preserve. Even if the supply of ice did not become exhausted, the excessive saturation of the moss in which the eggs are packed by the percolation of the ice water, and the impossibility of effecting a change of the atmosphere in the packages, led to chemical action, or to the development of fungoid growths, which equally often proved fatal to a large proportion, if not the whole, of the eggs. The new system adopted is a modification of Haslam's refrigerating machinery used in the preservation of meats and other perishable produce. The *Ionic*, like the other vessels of the New Zealand Shipping Company, has been fitted with this apparatus by the Haslam Foundry and Engineering Company, of Derby, for the importation of "frozen" mutton and other New Zealand produce, but the total absence of moisture from the chilled air produced by the action of their machines, while absolutely necessary for the preservation of meat, would be fatal to salmon eggs. By an ingenious contrivance invented by Mr. Haslam, the air, though kept at a steady temperature of from 30 to 34 degrees—low enough to retard the development of the eggs without actually freezing them—is also so thoroughly saturated with moisture that a piece of dry flannel being hung up in the chamber in which the eggs are deposited becomes quite damp in the course of a few hours. The air, reduced to this condition, is driven into the chamber, and expelled again on the other side, at regular stated short intervals of time, so that all possibility of "mouldiness" and of too great saturation is prevented on the one hand, and of too dry cold or too great heat on the other. The machinery has been warmly approved of by Sir James Gibson Maitland, whose first hatchery at Howietown, near Stirling, has been so successful, and who collected the eggs in question; and there is every prospect that the shipment will be a complete success. If so, it will be possible to send out many millions of eggs at a time to any part of the world, not only in far less space and at less cost, but with much greater certainty, than under the system hitherto adopted. Further than this, the machinery could be applied to the purpose of "storing" large quantities of fish ova, in the "hatcheries," and of retarding their development until such time as they could be conveniently hatched out. By this means large quantities of eggs collected at a time, in excess of the capacity of "hatching troughs," could be kept in reserve and hatched out in batches, until room was made for them by the removal of their predecessors.—*Times*.

PISCATORIAL SCRAPS.

By I. C. U.

MR. SACHS' great take of pike has been one of the leading topics of conversation during the past week. Wherever anglers have met together, the subject has been sure to crop up, and questions have been asked which are more extraordinary, if possible, than the catch itself. The following are some of them, and I feel sure Mr. Sachs will be obliged to I. C. U. for giving him an opportunity of answering them.

My informant said that Mr. Sachs stated at his club that the fish were taken "during the week," and this is borne out by "The Piscatorial Society's" report, signed "T. H."; but in another part of the *FISHING GAZETTE* we are told that the fish were taken "a short time since."

How can either of these reports be true, if two trout were taken, on the same day, which came to London? The season did not commence for these fish, in our earliest rivers, until February 1st. Then if the fish were not taken "during the week," or "a short time since," when were they taken? Do please tell us, Mr. Sachs and put a stop to the wagging of tongues.

Fingering the back numbers of the *Field*, and studying the contributions by Mr. Greville Fennell for the purpose of comparison with the Knight letters, has been a favourite occupation with a great number since my last efforts appeared. If anyone remains in doubt as to who wrote (or who inspired the writing of) these letters, he cannot do better than employ a little spare time in the same manner, as I can promise him that he will soon be satisfied on the point.

Were Mr. Fennell a raw hand, I should doubt his getting out of the little fix; but as I know him to be a master of the art of not being caught in a box with the lid on and nailed down, I shall expect him in this very number of the *FISHING GAZETTE* to prove himself a veritable innocent amongst innocents at Henley.

Mr. W. H. Brougham and Headkeeper Thompson taught the snatchers at Richmond Railway Bridge a severe lesson on Wednesday, when one of their number appeared before the local bench and was fined £2 and 15s. costs. I hope that the shameful practices carried on so long at this spot will now be put down with a firm hand. I am afraid W. H. B. will scarcely have got a guinea for his society out of this offender, as he sometimes very cleverly does out of others. I presume that the guinea is asked for and given as a mark of the guilty one's admiration for the strict carrying out of the law.

It is not so long since that the doctrine was preached, and believed in by those in authority, that netting was carried on above Richmond Bridge, and that it always had been, and always would be. I quite agree with the preachers that it was; but they were wrong when they said it always would be, as I can say it is not now, and I challenge anyone to deny my statement—of course I bar the netting for flounders by the society.

Old Solomon Armitage, the netsman, who loved an up-river raid, and gloried in the terror which his name inspired, is dead, and

not one of those he has left behind possesses half the brute courage which caused him to be so feared that keepers preferred their beds and warmth rather than night and Old Sol. When it became known that Solomon had sworn that the first man who touched his boat after dusk should taste the iron of his pole, he was believed, and bailiffs—fully paid, partially paid, and honorary—declined the chance of the luxury offered them.

Netting above Richmond Bridge undoubtedly died with "Old Sol," and the practice may be considered buried by the New Fisheries By-laws, which made it unlawful to have undersized fish in possession, even for bait. Anglers can now turn their attention to the illegal practices below, which denude the river of fish for a length of ten miles, where it is admitted that roach and dace fishing should be of the very best. I say illegal practices, advisedly, and I ask, When will the anglers of London have a preservation committee that can deal with the subject of protection for all the waters they fish? Where is the use of their renting waters they are unable to spend a penny in preserving, while their own freehold waters, which are capable of holding more fish than all the waters put together, at present rented by Londoners, go unprotected as well? Experimenting in coarse fish culture is a good way to spend money, and renting of water is a better; but preservation is the best, and will prove itself to be so in the long run. I don't wish to be misunderstood. I say, "Fish culture is good, and that renting of waters is good; but that protection is better," and should come first instead of last.

"Nemo's" article in last week's *FISHING GAZETTE* on "Unity and the London Anglers," hits the right nail with considerable force, and the pleasure of reading such sensible suggestions was considerably enhanced by the footnote which pledges the Editor to make certain communications, which, if favourably answered, will lead to the distribution of Mr. P. Geen's suggestions on this subject to every London angler, after which a public meeting would follow.

Come, this looks like business at last. We are all much obliged to you, Mr. Nemo.

It is quite amusing to go behind the scenes and witness the demure faces of old friends while serving on committees to determine who shall be invited to preside at their annual dinners. The committee of an ordinary society solve this problem very readily by inviting someone whom they know and respect, and whom they feel sure will make their members and guests feel at home. The result of this sensible method is that sundry *faux pas* of societies who are a little too ambitious about their presiding geniuses are avoided, and everyone enjoys himself.

Of course this would never answer with some societies, any more than it would answer to print their menus in English. They must have a big somebody, and the bigger the better. Wouldn't they like the Prince of Wales? At any rate, his name is sure to rise to someone's lips, and then probably will follow the Right Hon. A. J. Mundella's, Mr. Bright's, Mr. Fawcett's, and Mr. Birkbeck's, after which the wag will break in with Mr. Bradlaugh's name; but no one ever yet thought of inviting H.S.H. the Duke of Teck, except our friends the Richmond Piscatorials, and if rumour be correct His Serene Highness's reply was not altogether satisfactory; but that he offered to send his butler can scarcely be true, as I notice in their annual report that H. S. H. the Duke of Teck, K.C.B., is still president of the society.

A step which other societies may follow with considerable advantage to the general angling interests has been determined on by our friends at Richmond, who have for some time rented a splendid piece of water at Feltham, which they have now decided to give up in favour of a still more liberal support to the River Thames and other objects of importance needing support. This decision is as decidedly complimentary to the Thames Angling Preservation Society as it is creditable to the Richmond Piscatorial Society.

Mr. T. Hoole appears to be greatly respected by the members of the Thames Angling Preservation Society, as I notice that almost every name is down on the list as a subscriber, and I now hear that Mr. Spreckley (the president), Mr. Brougham (the secretary), and Mr. Geen are busy amongst their friends, and rapidly adding guineas to the handsome fund in hand.

If contributing entitles me to do so, I should like to offer a suggestion or two for the consideration of those who will have to decide the what, when, and how.

- (1) To prevent the possibility of purchasing a white elephant (the one at the Zoo is an awful fraud) don't spend the money, but allow the intended recipient to do as he pleases with it.
- (2) If there is to be a dinner, let it be the 3s. 6d. table d'hôte, at the Holborn Restaurant, as this will ensure a good company.
- (3) Don't invite a duke to preside; but let us have somebody we know.

That important part of Mr. Lark's speech at the West Central Association, in which he admitted that, while at one time he was averse to a close time for Norfolk and Suffolk, he now hoped that when the proposed amendments to the Mundella Bill were drafted, their rivers and broads would be included, met with a chorus of "hear, hear's," and I noticed that the president used his pencil

with as much alacrity as if it were his best bit of business for some time.

"From information received," I am in a position to state that the waters of the Thames are highly discoloured from Lechlade to Putney, and that the old manœuvre of going above the dirty Mole and Wey will not avail; but, as the weather is so very mild, good takes will be sure to be had, here and there, from the quiet, shallow lay-byes, with well-scoured lobs. I fear anglers must be prepared to avail themselves of half an opportunity if they wish to get fishing during the remainder of this season.

I. C. U.

SALMON FISHING, &c.

[We have much pleasure in printing the following extracts from a letter just received from Major John P. Traherne.—ED.]

DEAR SIR,—I must apologise for not having sooner answered yours of the 23rd inst., which has been following me about the country, and has only just come to hand.

I like the FISHING GAZETTE very much, and shall certainly recommend my friends to take it in, and wish you success.

If you can introduce salmon angling matters, as well as trout and coarse fishing, it will be a great addition, and give more interest to the angling public.

Mr. Kelson is quite right in saying I take a great interest in angling. I caught my first trout when I was four years old, and have been at it ever since—the last thirty-five years of my life, salmon fishing almost every fishing day throughout the season. I believe I have made as many (if not more) salmon flies as any other amateur in my time. A case of specimens of my flies was in the Fisheries Exhibition, not for competition, and will be in the Cardiff Art Exhibition this year. I have fished all over Norway, England, Ireland, and Scotland, and I consider myself master of every possible method of casting that can be accomplished with a salmon rod—which I should be happy to prove by actual practice if I had opportunity. I have read Mr. Kelson's articles in the FISHING GAZETTE with much interest, and I think they are very clever, and the instructions as to making the cast are illustrated as plainly as it is possible to make them in writing. I have no doubt the others will be quite as good when they appear. Only one thing, I think (if I may venture to say so), may be a mistake; that is, that he has begun with the most difficult cast (in my opinion) of the lot, instead of the easiest. Of course, it is a matter of opinion as to whether a novice should begin with the most difficult; and Mr. Kelson may think that the one I call the most difficult is the most easy—and, as I said, it is purely a matter of opinion. I have a rod made by Farlow, 17 feet 10 inches, with which I can accomplish all the various casts, which is saying a great deal; but success is greatly dependent on the line one uses.

I am a very poor hand at the pen, but I could give you a good deal of information, acquired by actual experience, as to rods, lines, and flies, and could answer many questions you may be inclined to put, in any shape you liked for publication. When I have seen Mr. Kelson's letters to the end I may have a word or two to say which may have escaped his notice.

With regard to lines, I send you a salmon line, undressed, which I have used (and nothing else) almost every fishing day, from May, 1882, to October, 1883. You are welcome to put it to any fair test you please. It is as good and strong for all practical purposes as when it came out of Farlow's shop; and I am so satisfied of its durability that I shall discard all dressed lines for the future, I find they invariably rot after a twelvemonth's use. If you like, I will write you a short letter—"Undressed v. Dressed Lines"—with my theory as to the cause of dressed lines rotting so quickly. I have no time to do so to-day, but will write later on if you desire it.

I am going soon for spring fishing on the Lee. Would you like to have a report by-and-by? I am not going to stay there more than a week, as I am going to the Dee afterwards.—I am, &c.,

JOHN P. TRAHERNE.

P.S.—You can keep the line for a week or so, if any one likes to see it. Please send my next GAZETTE to Ireland, addressed as mentioned.

[We are quite sure that any notes from such an accomplished salmon angler as Major Traherne will be welcomed by our readers, who will remember his case of splendid salmon flies at the late Exhibition, which we had the pleasure of noticing in this paper. The line the Major refers to, although showing signs of plenty of hard work and friction through the rings, is still, even at the tapered ends, strong enough for anything. For some years we used in trout fishing an undressed plaited silk line, and found, *when wet*, it answered admirably, but it was too light when dry to cast with precision.—ED.]

THE SPORTSMAN'S EXHIBITION, 1884.

THIS EXHIBITION, which is to be held from March 6th to 15th, at the Agricultural Hall, has proved so conspicuous a success in past years that our readers will not be surprised to learn that there is every prospect of the forthcoming one being even more interesting to all classes of sportsmen than the preceding ones.

We learn that the most prominent firms in the Carriage Trade, Gun-makers, Cricket, Lawn Tennis, Fishing, Billiards, Harness-makers, Boating, and, in fact, everything connected with any

branch of sport, will be represented, while the whole of the enormous galleries are filled with Bicycles and Tricycles, and the accessories to Cycling, thus presenting an exhibition, which, for completeness and interest to sportsmen, has never been equalled.

We understand that there is but very little space left to allot, respecting which Mr. Harry Etherington, the Secretary, of 152, Fleet Street, will be pleased to give any information.

CLUB REPORTS.

ACT-ON-THE-SQUARE ANGLING SOCIETY.

The first competition for our club challenge prize came off at Waltham on Saturday afternoon, January 26th, amidst an elemental strife which almost made angling impossible. Acting upon the judicious advice of Host Wheeler, of the King's Arms, we were pegged down at the only spot fishable; and thus, in anything but a pleasurable contest, we decided the first stage for the above prize, Mr. Mills capturing two out of the only three fish (perch) taken. The roach were *non est*. This prize has to be won twice in succession, or three times in all, to become the absolute property of a member. We hope to have a good many contests before this consummation is reached.—EDW. J. HOFFMAN, sec.

ACTON PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

Our competition for a leg of mutton supper resulted in Messrs. West and Simpson being declared the winners, with 20½ lb. of fine dace, Dick Coxen being puntsman. Messrs. Howell and Cook had 19 lb.; Messrs. Brooks and E. Eydmann had 12½ lb.; and Messrs. W. Eydmann and Townsend had 8½ lb. We weighed in our club room that evening over 60 lb. of fine dace, all taken from Twickenham. As soon as the water gets bright again, or in fishable order, we have a competition coming off for roach only; anywhere in the Thames; bank or punt. We have forwarded a guinea to the Thames Angling Preservation Society, ours being only a small club. I think other clubs might do worse than follow our example. The following are the weights of fish weighed in last week:—Messrs. West, 36 lb.; Cook, 18 lb.; Simpson, 22 lb.; Howell, 12 lb.; Brooks, 6 lb.; E. Eydmann, 6 lb.; W. Eydmann, 5 lb.; and Townsend, 3 lb. I have much pleasure in forwarding you our subscription for the GAZETTE.—BLACK BAG.

AMICABLE BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

Mr. Dwellie saved the club from a blank by weighing in perch from the Lea. The members will fish a pegged down match at Ware Engine House, down to Ware Bridge, on Feb. 10th, for eight prizes.—J. WORLEDGE.

CLERKENWELL PISCATORIALS.

A general meeting of the above club will take place on Monday, Feb. 11th.—J. W. POWER, sec.

COBDEN ANGLING SOCIETY.

At the weekly meeting of the members of the above society on Tuesday last some nice fish were shown by Mr. Evans, taken from the Thames. They consisted of two chub of 1½ lb. each, and fifteen roach and dace, the total being a little over 7 lb. The match fished on the 27th ult. was not a great success, as only three out of five prizes were taken. The unfavourable result was attributed to the very rough state of the weather. The other two prizes are to be fished for on Feb. 3rd.—C. REEVES, sec.

DALSTON ANGLING SOCIETY.

On Monday, the 28th ult., a smoking concert was held at the above society in aid of the funds of the Anglers' Benevolent Society, which proved a great success, being well supported by the brothers of the rod and their friends. Some excellent harmony was rendered by Messrs. W. Midson, H. Bowden, F. Lines, F. Legge, and others. After some well placed remarks from Mr. Ghurney, secretary to the society, and Mr. Manning, trustee, on the usefulness of the society, the evening closed in a most satisfactory manner.—S. MALBY sec.

DUKE OF NORFOLK ANGLING SOCIETY.

The return visit (West Central) took place at the above on Monday, the 28th ult., when eleven clubs responded to the roll call—viz., the Good Intent, Cambridge Friendly, Cobden, Crown Piscatorials, Hammersmith United, Knights of Knightsbridge, Prince of Wales, Queen's, Reform, Waltonians, Westbourne Park. Harmony was the order of the evening; Mr. Walford, of the Queen's, taking the chair, faced by Mr. Whitehall, of the Duke of Norfolk. Mr. Walford opened by singing a comic song, followed by our vice-chairman, ditto; Mr. Jenkins, of the Cobden, coming out strong with "Jack's as Good as his Master"; after which Mr. Star (Waltonians) favoured us with "The Good Young Man that Died" in his usual capital style. Mr. Robins, of the Prince of Wales, pleased us very much by the way he rendered "Wait till the Clouds roll by." Mr. Clark (Reform) told us how to be "Economical, and Live like a Lord." Mr. Willcox sang "The White Squall" in masterly style, and the following gentlemen also contributed towards the evening's amusement:—Messrs. Pearse, Morgan, Osborne, Chick, Barrett (Queen's), Adeane, Norriss, Thisle, Burwash, Baxter, Bennett, Avon, jun., Avon, sen., Tucker, and Mr. Grey. During the course of the evening Mr. Adeane, of the Westbourne Park, made a few remarks in favour of Mr. Hoole's testimonial, which were very well received. N.B.—The next return visit (West Central) will be paid to the Good Intent Angling Society.—T. AVON, sen., sec.

GOLDEN BARBEL ANGLING SOCIETY.

On the 27th ult. seventeen members of this society visited Rye House to compete for prizes; but owing to the heavy gale of wind, and the downpour of rain that occurred on the previous day, the water was so thick and the chances of getting any fish was so slight, that the competition was abandoned for that day. At the meeting held on Tuesday it was decided that the competition take place at Windsor, on February 17th, conditions to be the same as before. Mr. T. Geen saved the society from having a blank on 27th ult., with some nice roach from the Thames.—PIXIE.

GOOD INTENT ANGLING SOCIETY.

On the 13th inst. there was a fair show of fish at our club. Mr. Monk some

good jack, one fish over 8 lb.; Mr. Gadbury three jack; Mr. Maybury, roach Mr. W. Hughes, roach. On the 20th, Mr. G. Bates brought in a good show of dace; also Mr. Hewett some capital dace; Mr. Maybury, roach from Moultsford; Mr. Murphy, roach from the Lea. I am sorry to report the death of one of our member, Mr. Thomas Bates, after a long illness, much regretted by all the members. I am very pleased to say there is no members of this club enrolled on the Anglers' Benevolent Society. I wish our club with that number was the lowest. Brother anglers, what is the reason you don't join in larger numbers? Be wise, and join at once. Our annual supper takes place on February 12th, Mr. J. Tibbatts chairman, Mr. E. H. Meade, vice-chairman. The members fish the Rye House water on the 27th for twelve prizes, ranging from £2 2s. to 10s. 6d.—R. MURPHY.

The members of this club fished at the Rye House water on the 27th ult. for thirteen prizes, ranging from £2 2s. to 10s. 6d., but the river being so much out of condition there was no fish taken, so they fish again on Feb. 3rd at the same place, and I hope with better results. Our annual supper takes place on Tuesday, the 12th of February—Mr. A. J. Tibbatts, chairman; Mr. E. H. Meade, vice.—R. MURPHY.

GREAT NORTHERN BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

We had another good show of fish on the 20th inst. Messrs. G. Watling, Theobald, and J. Fitch tried Pulboro', with the following result:—G. Watling, 7 lb. 2 oz.; Theobald, 7 lb. 1 oz.; J. Fitch, 2 lb. 7 oz., consisting of roach and bream, six of the roach weighing nearly 1 lb. each. Mr. Barber, 6 lb. of jack from the Ouse. Mr. C. Warner again came up smiling with another brace of fine jack from the Thames, weighing respectively 6 lb. 12 oz. and 6 lb. 4 oz.; Mr. Watley, two pretty jack from the Welsh Harp, weighing respectively 4 lb. 13 oz. and 4 lb. 9 oz.; Mr. J. Watling, 11 lb. 14 oz. good roach from the Thames. Mr. C. Watling, sen., 5 lb. 11 oz.; Mr. Marinella, 14 oz.; total 63 lb. 7 oz. We received a complimentary visit from the Globe Angling Society (held at the George, Fonthill Road, Finsbury Park) on Wednesday, the 24th inst.—chairman, Mr. J. Fitch; vice-chairman, Mr. C. Watling. The following gentlemen contributed to the evening's amusement:—Messrs. J. Fitch, C. Watling, J. Holmes, J. Watling, G. Watling (the flutelette), R. Smith, Duckett, E. Young, Lawrence, W. Bailie, S. Howell, jun., Fitzgerald (the talking sparrow), J. Dingley, Titmus, and W. Watling and friend (two very clever dancers). After a very pleasant evening's amusement, the chairman thanked the visitors for the numerous attendance, and it was unanimously carried that the visits be continued.—J. FITCH, sec.

GREAT YARMOUTH PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

I have no news of any importance this week; angling seems a most at a standstill, all waiting patiently for our case to be decided. I am much obliged to you personally, and when our Society meets next week, I shall see in what manner we had better advertise our lists of subscriptions in your columns; but in the meantime please allow me to acknowledge 10s. 6d. from Mr. G. R. Hunt, of the Gresham, and the Widow's Mite of five shillings, through Mr. Hawkins, of the Seymour Arms, Euston-square. I can only say, in conclusion, that I continue to receive every assistance, not only pecuniary, but otherwise, from the Angling Public of London and the suburbs, and I sincerely trust that this case will be the means of stopping that feeling that the waters abounding with fish are so sacred. One gentleman writes me and says, I roused the spirit of London anglers! I hope I have, and that it will not be quenched just yet, at all events until Government itself takes some of these waters that are common property, and under good laws makes them a source of sport, pastime and food for many or all its subjects.—JAMES LARK, hon. sec.

GRESHAM ANGLING SOCIETY.

The ordinary weekly meeting of the above society was held at the Masons' Hall Tavern, Masons' Avenue, Basinghall Street, on Tuesday evening. Mr. Rippin presided, and was supported by a goodly number of members and visitors. The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed, and Mr. Downing unanimously elected a member of the society. Two new members, Messrs. Chubb and Bertram, were duly proposed and seconded, and ordered to be balloted for on the 12th prox. Mr. Crumplen announced that he had received a contribution of half-a-guinea towards the expenses of Mr. Lark's appeal against the justices' decision with reference to the right of fishing in Heigham Sounds, from another of their members, Mr. Hunt, making the total amount contributed by the society close upon £6. A letter was read from the West Central Association stating that they had contributed five guineas, and had also passed a resolution that the matter should be brought under the notice of all the angling societies affiliated to them. Other matters on the agenda being disposed of, the chairman, in a few well-chosen words, proposed the health of the visitors, which was responded to by Mr. Potter, of the Walton and Cotton Angling Society. Mr. Potter expressed the great pleasure his visit to the society had afforded him, and took the opportunity to congratulate the members on the acquisition of its new fishery, with which he was thoroughly acquainted; indeed, his efforts there had been so successful that a recital of some of them caused Dr. Brunton, who followed him, in a few kindly remarks to quote from the preface to an old book, "The Modern Angler," in which is given, in Byronic verse, the account of a supposed conference of fishes with one Mr. Jack (alias Pike) at their head, in which the dread of the members of Mr. Potter's society was very forcibly expressed. It was decided to have a conversation on February 19, notice of which will be sent to the members as soon as the committee have made the necessary arrangements. On Tuesday next, when the chair will be taken by Dr. Brunton, Mr. Crumplen is to read a paper "On the Cause of the Recent Red Skies." Papers by Mr. Bentley "On Parasites Injurious to Fish," and by Dr. Lloyd "On the Pollution of Rivers," were also promised, and will be read at an early opportunity. Mr. Parker relieved Mr. Rippin of the duties of the chair during the latter portion of the evening. The usual votes of thanks were accorded to both of these gentlemen, and an exceedingly pleasant evening brought to a close with some excellent music, to which the visitors most ably contributed.—H.

HIGHBURY ANGLING SOCIETY.

Our trays on the 20th inst. were abundantly furnished with some capital jack, perch, roach, and dace, from the Thames and Lea, the result of a spirited contest for several valuable prizes. The most fortunate in the way of sport, and to whom fell the honours of the day, were Messrs. Lewis and S. Howell, the other members contributing being Mr. Temple, Mr. E. Wheatley, Mr. Anthony, Mr. Shipley, Mr. Higley, Mr. Payne, and Mr. Edwards.—JAS. E. WHEATLEY, sec.

HOXTON BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

Ten prizes were to be fished for on the 27th ult., at Shiplake. In conse-

quence of the unfavourable weather, twelve members only ventured out. The following three weighed in one fish each—Messrs. W. Pledger, R. Barron, and S. Gillett.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

INDEPENDENT BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

A smoking concert took place last Thursday evening, and proved a success. Members of the following clubs were present: The Stanley, Hampstead, Bostonians, Waltonians, Great Northern Brothers, Phoenix, also members from the Haverstock Cycling Club. On the 27th, Messrs Underwood and Billings had some roach.—W. HILLIER, sec.

INDEPENDENT BROTHERS ANGLING SOCIETY.

Owing to the unfavourable weather, we did not have much fish on the 27th ult., Messrs. H. Wilson, Clarke, and Coomes only having a few roach; hope for better success next week. Our return visit took place on Tuesday, the 29th ult.; we did not have many clubs, but a great many brother anglers and their friends, as they came in strong force—thirteen from the Lincoln A. S. That's the style; bravo Lincoln! Amongst the visitors was Mr. Akers, host of the Sun Tavern, Drury Lane; Mr. Coulson, our late host; Mr. Ellis, host of the Lincoln Arms, York Road, King's Cross, and our present host, Mr. Waldo, Bird-in-Hand, Long Acre, who turned out four jolly good fellows. The evening was spent in jolly style, not a hitch in any way, everybody going home perfectly satisfied and pleased. The harmony of the evening was immense, being contributed to by Messrs. Clark, Coomes, Green, Wainwright, Wannell, Humphreys, Brush, Wilson, Pyne, Burnett, and Blyth, and with the usual Auld Lang Syne, we wished one another good night. Chair taken by Mr. A. Antony; vice-chair, H. Moore. Thanks to all friends.—H. MOORE, sec.

LINCOLN ANGLING SOCIETY.

Our members went out on the 27th January, but met with rather inferior sport. We are going out on the 3rd inst. to fish for four prizes, and we are under the impression that we shall have a fine show of fish.—F. W. TODD, sec. pro. tem.

MANNINGHAM ANGLING CLUB.

The Christmas numbers, &c. to hand. On the 14th ult. the Manningham Angling Club held their ordinary monthly meeting, and it being the first meeting of the year a large number of members were present, and a deal of ordinary business was gone through. There were various prizes given for the largest fish of each species caught during the past season; also some new rules passed with regard to the taking of fish during the close season, a thing which certainly requires looking into, as I am sorry to say there are more pot hunters than sportsmen in this district. There has been nothing doing in the way of angling here for the last fortnight or three weeks. I went down to Poole on the 21st inst., but was surprised when I got there to find the water so thick and swollen after the little rain we had on the Tuesday. I should have sent you full particulars of the Manningham Club meeting; but from the remarks made by the secretary to me and others I fully expected to see a full report of it in your paper of the 19th ult. The Bowling Club holds its meeting on the 3rd inst., and the Bradford Club on the Wednesday following. I shall attend both meetings, and put your paper before them. I dare say that you think it strange of me taking such an interest in your paper; but I delight in fish and fishing, and would do anything to further the interest of anglers.—NOVICE.

PHOENIX ANGLING SOCIETY.

Several of our members were out on the 27th ult., and so was the wind, and that blew them home again with sad faces and empty bags, excepting the Demon Slater, who was with our dear old friends the Good Intent, at Rye House, and he managed to get one roach weighing 8½ oz., thereby saving the club a bank. But if we were sad on that day we made up for it on Tuesday evening, thanks to Mr. Moore and his merry men of the Independent Brothers. Read, Mr. Moore, and mark that I do not regret having that six miles to walk; but please observe that we did not arrive home till two in the morning.—W. E.

RICHMOND ANGLING SOCIETY.

A long report from this society is to hand this (Friday) morning, just as we go to press, and with 16 pages too much already set up, notwithstanding our extra 4-page supplement, we must ask our friends to make their reports as concise as possible for the next few weeks.

RODNEY PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

On the 27th ult., Messrs. Dodd and Grant, sen., visited Shepperton. They managed to get about 2 lb. roach and dace, in spite of snow and the rushing water that was coming down. I beg to inform members that the South London United will have a pegged-down at Egham on the 24th. Conditions.—First train on that morning from Waterloo to Staines, walk over Staines Bridge and turn to the right, walk to the centre of swims pegged out, draw for swims, commence fishing at once; entrance fee as usual. Members desirous of competing are requested to send in their names as soon as possible. At the meeting held on the 30th, it was decided that a supper take place at the headquarters on February 27, as that night will be most convenient to members and their friends. For further particulars enquire of Mr. Marsh or "Pixie." I beg to acknowledge the receipt of Box for Anglers' Benevolent Fund.—PIXIE.

ROYAL GEORGE ANGLING SOCIETY.

We had a very good show of fish in our room, Jan. 13th. Mr. Parsons had a good take of roach and dace from the Upper Thames, so did Mr. Hughes. Messrs. Halden, Hewitt, Trotter, and Lloyd came in with a splendid show of dace from the Lower Thames, which gladdened the eye and also had the effect of making those members who had not the opportunity of going out feel very disappointed, myself included. We have a match coming off at Twickenham; on the 27th inst., members who cannot punt have selected for a partner, one that can, and the two go out together, the three first punts to weigh in for prizes. Will forward the result in due course. This year, by way of change, we have a Smoking Concert in place of the Annual Supper, which will take place on the 28th inst., each member to invite a friend. On the 20th inst., Mr. Hughes brought in a good show of roach and dace, so did Messrs. Parsons and Trotter. Messrs. Palmer, Hewitt, Lloyd, and Sinclair came in well with dace from the tidal waters.—W. H. R.

SOUTH-EASTERN ANGLING SOCIETY.

A good attendance of members, also visitors, being honoured by the pre-

sence of Messrs. Cain and Griffin, of the Walworth Waltonians, and others. Two propositions of membership, ballot for same on the 23rd. Messrs. Smith and son were out again and weighed in, this time from Staines. They report water, &c., in good trim, but a little disappointed in their takes. Perhaps, a little neglectful instead of following, old Izaak Walton, they were imitating Sir Wilfrid Lawson? The match I spoke of in your last issue is off, but we are in hopes of getting one on with a member of another club, of which I hope to give you further information: On Wednesday a good meeting was held; no time for harmony. The two gentlemen proposed on the 20th inst. were elected, some very important business got through, and other matters relating to arrears to be settled next meeting night by the committee. A letter received from Mr. Hopkins, sen., of the Excelsior, in answer to the challenge thrown out by Mr. Smith, jun., of our club, to fish Mr. Hopkins, jun., for a fiver, accepting the same. A meeting will take place to settle all arrangements between the elders of each of the contestants, and a lively time may be looked for. There is likely to be another match of some importance before the season closes—Six versus Two, the former unknowns of the club. Members are warned of the alteration in rule 15, a notice of which is posted on board in club-room, the result of a typo's error.—F. H. H. WESTON, sec.

A good attendance of members on the 27th inst., with some visitors as usual. Mr. Jas. Smith, jun., was among them, again at Staines. Prospects of the society promising. Mr. Bayley, chairman. On Wednesday some twenty-five members showed up and good business got through; the names of seven removed from the ledger, of which the W. C. A. are advised, two important communications read, also one from Mr. E. C. Otter, Captain Thames Rowing Club, concerning Thames Valley Sewage Manure Works, proposed to be established immediately below Kew Railway Bridge, inviting a delegate from this club, was received too late. The communication was well received. It calls upon anglers in general to look to their interests, as also others. It is proposed to have a day's outing on the last Sunday in February or the first in March. The match I spoke of is in the proper parties' hands, if we can only come to terms this week; it will be no fault of ours should it fall through, as the money is there.—T. H. H. WESTON, sec.

SOUTH LONDON UNITED VISITING.

The clubs on the above list will fish their last match this season on Feb. 24th, from Staines Bridge, up river on Egham side, starting by first train from Waterloo. Pegged down match; entrance fee, 1s., one rod only to be used. Tickets to be had of the secretaries of the various clubs. Any information required may be had of Wm. ALLEN, hon. sec.

SURREY PISCATORIALS.

A special meeting was held on the 30th ult. in the new club room to decide some important business, and make some new arrangements, of interest to members only. After business was over, Mr. Hibbert entertained the company with "Othello's Defence," and several other pieces from the same work, thereby displaying the beauties of Shakespeare in such a manner as to delight all present. The next competition among the members will take place on Feb. 13th, for £1 1s., given by Mr. Linstead, and a prize to the same amount, given by Mr. Sutcliffe. The "where" and "how" will be decided at the ordinary meeting preceding the outing, at which all members are requested to attend.—PIXIE.

THE NEW WALTON AND COTTON ANGLING SOCIETY.

The first annual supper of the above society was held at the club house on Wednesday evening, Jan. 23rd. Twenty members and visitors sat down and did ample justice to the excellent viands provided by Host Dredge, to whom too much praise cannot be given for his successful catering. The chair was ably filled by Mr. H. Hallam, faced by Mr. Hawkins. Mr. Pontifex, presided at the piano, his "British Patrol," meeting with much approbation. The healths of Treasurer and Secretary were drunk with musical honours. Mr. Hoffmann, (visitor), sang the first song, (Dutch), "Hush Thee, my Baby," his second, "The Schweitzer Girl," also being much appreciated. Mr. H. Hallam's first song "I'll Sing Thee Songs of Araby," was also much applauded and greatly enjoyed, his second "Mary of Argyll," meeting with equal appreciation. Mr. Newman's (visitor), recitations, "Shamus O'Brien," and "Christmas Day in the Workhouse," were given with good effect. Mr. Sutton Smith's (visitor), song, "Out on the Deep," his second "The Diver," his third, "In Cellar Cool," and fourth, "Sailing," were much enjoyed and loudly applauded. Mr. Stocker, sang, "Down by the River Side," Mr. Cole, "The Men of Merry England," and "Bay of Biscay." Mr. Hallam, sen. (visitor), "The Little Drummer Boy." Our host Dredge, after a well chosen speech, sang "Our Highland Home." Mr. H. Hallam, who proposed the health of the visitors, was responded to by Mr. Hallam, sen. The meeting closed at 12.30, after having spent a most enjoyable evening. Since my last report the following members have weighed in fish. On Jan. 13th, Mr. Stocker, roach; Jan. 20th, roach; Mr. Wyeth, Jan. 15th, roach; Mr. Hallam, Jan. 20th, chub, 18 lb. 12 oz. and on Jan. 24th, Mr. Wyeth, roach, 5 lb. 2 oz., and one perch.—W. T. HAWKINS, Hon. Sec.

THE PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

The usual weekly meeting of this Society took place on Monday evening last at Ashley's Hotel, Covent Garden. There was a good attendance of members during the evening, amongst them being Messrs. Gray, Gillatt, Goodger, Robinson, Fennings, H. B. Brown, Hill, Huggett, Hatfield, Pattison, T. R. Sachs, Dr. Brunton, E. Bennett, Bird, Russell, &c. Mr. C. P. Wheatstone was voted to the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the hon. secretary read a letter from Mr. Fennings, who had been pike fishing at Ringwood, giving a most graphic account of his adventures in the Peter boat belonging to the fishery during the gale of Saturday last. The previous night the river had commenced to flood, and although he tried hard for several hours, "never a jack had he;" he therefore, essayed the roach, and showed on the table a fine tray of these fish which were much admired. The chief feature of the evening was a show of seven fine pike by Mr. Huggett weighing in the aggregate nearly 80 lb. In a very humorous speech he described the capture of the largest fish, which, weighed at the club-room, three days after capture, weighed over 16 lb., and which he was compelled to play and land without assistance, his friend Mr. Alfred Winter, a well-known angler, being on the opposite side of the river and the attendant away with the boat. He remarked that with the allowance sometimes claimed for loss of weight the fish at the moment of its capture would have weighed nearly 20 lb.; its full length was 3 ft. 3 in., and the fish was in good condition. His health as the successful angler was proposed with cheers, and duly responded to. Mr. Sachs was unfortunately prevented by the gale from bringing up his promised show of pike. With a friend, he fished

one of the best private pike waters in England; but the fates were against them, and they did not get a run or take a single fish. They fish the same water again soon, and will doubtless have better luck. Mr. H. B. Brown has been fishing at Whittlesford, with only moderate success; he intends another visit. The health of the chairman was then duly proposed and his reply brought the meeting to a close. It has been decided that the annual dinner of this society shall be held in the Venetian Saloon of the Holborn Restaurant, on Wednesday, 5th March. The Right Hon. Charles Mc'Laren, Esq., M.P., who attended the dinner on the occasion when the Right Hon. Arthur J. Otway, M.P., presided, has consented to take the chair. The various stewards have been elected, and the dinner promises to be a great success. Members and their friends are requested to make early application for tickets, so that the numbers to be provided for may be properly arranged. The direction of the music has been left in the hands of the hon. sec., Mr. James Lander.—T.H.

UNITED LONDON ANGLERS.

The usual monthly meeting of the committee will take place on Monday evening next, February 4th. Chair taken at 9 o'clock by Mr. S. Morgan, business of importance to be brought forward.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

WALWORTH WALTONIANS.

On the 24th several of the members of this society competed for the prizes given by Messrs. J. Bedford and H. Quodling, viz., a cash prize of £1 1s., and one of 10s. 6d. Messrs. Boalch and Gilbert, exhibited fish from Shepperton, therewith winning the first and second prizes. On this occasion the members held their meeting upstairs in their new club-room, which I must say is a great improvement on the old one. Here members and their friends can meet and sit down comfortably to a game of chess, or a hand at whist. Should either of these games be above their knowledge, they can have a turn at draughts, or read the books or papers that will be found on file or in the case belonging to the society. As a further attraction several gentlemen have promised to read papers on fish and fishing, the date of which will be given from time to time. Much praise is due to Mr. Bansback and Mr. Boalch, the secretary, for these improvements, which is a step in the right direction for an angling society. The next competition will take place on February 10th for a set of tankards given by Mr. South, and a cash prize of 10s. 6d. given by Mr. Piolaine. Conditions for competition on the 10th: go where and fish how you like, subject to club rules. A requisition signed by seven members, calling a general meeting to consider important business on the 14th.—PIXIE.

WELLINGTON ANGLING SOCIETY.

On Wednesday evening this society opened their meeting with nine members. Mr. H. Lockett in the chair, in the unavoidable absence of Mr. H. G. Hills (chairman and treasurer.) After the minutes of previous meeting had been confirmed, Mr. George Mayo was elected a member. A circular from the West Central Association having been read, it was resolved that five shillings be subscribed from the funds towards the Heigham Sounds Defence Fund, to be added to any subscription that might be made among the members. It was also resolved that the prizes won by members this season should be purchased and placed in the possession of the society by next Wednesday. We then proceeded to harmony, and some good songs were rendered by J. H. Hoskins, secretary to the Excelsior Society, Mr. Wright, and others.—W. W. ALEXANDER, sec.

WESTBOURNE PARK PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

The 7th annual dinner of this society was held at their headquarters, the Peican Hotel, All Saint's Road, W., on Tuesday, 22nd January, when forty-eight members and friends collected together, including Mr. Bonvoisin, Mr. Godfrey, and others, to do ample justice to the good things provided by Host Roberts, who had evidently made up his mind that nothing should be wanting on his part, and, in consequence, great satisfaction was expressed by one and all. Letters were read from Messrs. Hoole, Marston, Crumplen, and Brougham, expressing their regret at not being present in consequence of previous engagements. At the conclusion, the usual loyal toasts were given, following which, the chairman, Mr. G. Evans proposed "The West Central Association of London Anglers," coupling with same the name of Mr. Bonvoisin, who followed with a most suitable reply, laying early to rest present the principal work the Association had before them, especially the amalgamation proposals. Mr. Adeane, the vice chairman, then gave "The Thames Angling Preservation Society and its Officers," for which Mr. Geen was named to respond, but we regret to say at the last moment he found himself unable to attend. Mr. Bonvoisin, every ready, then consented to say a few words in his place. Next followed the toast of the evening, "The Westbourne Park Piscatorial Society," which was heartily drunk with full glasses. The company were not troubled then with any particulars of the society's work, time running along so quickly, and as at a general meeting of the members held a short time previously the secretary Mr. H. Thompson, had given in a full report. Attention was, however, called to the fact that the annual subscription would in future be £1, it having been found necessary for more purposes than one to increase the funds of the society, and that any gentleman wishing to become an honorary member could do so if elected by paying a similar amount, but would not be entitled to participate in any prizes. The chairman then proceeded to give out the prizes that had been won during 1883. £88 4s. had been promised, of which sum £73 19s. had been won by members, all with specimen fish only, the best of them being:—Trout 6½ lb., Mr. Young; jack 9½ lb., Mr. Head; perch 1 lb. 14½ oz., Mr. Harrison; roach 2 lb. 4 oz., Mr. H. Thompson; dace 14 oz., Mr. Hawkins; barbel 6 lb. 12 oz., Mr. H. Hulbert; carp (Thames), 5 lb. 13 oz., Mr. Young; chub 4 lb. 12½ oz., Mr. Harrison; bream 5½ lb., Mr. Buttery; tench 4 lb., Mr. Bowen; and rudd, 1½ lb. Mr. Walker. Beyond these prizes there is the 10s. 6d. chromo presented monthly by Mr. Harrison for the largest specimen taken each month excluding jack, and in addition nine matches were contested for during the year with money prizes to the amount of £54 13s. given, without encroaching upon the funds of the club. Other toasts having followed, including "The Visitors," "The Officers of the Society," "Chairman and Vice-chairman" of the evening, contributions to the ensuing prize list flowed in rapidly, and at intervals some excellent songs were given by Messrs. Evans, Rogers, Park, Radford, Fisher, Reed, Oatley, and Hulbert. Messrs. Knight and Thomas gave recitations. A vote of thanks was then proposed to the stewards, Messrs. Reed and J. J. Fisher, which concluded a pleasant gathering.

THERE are in Newfoundland dogs which procure fish from the water by diving. On observing a fish to swim within reach, they plunge to the depth of six or more feet, and thus secure themselves the pleasure of angling without any of its uncertainties. They do not feed upon fish thus taken.—American Angler.



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H.I.M. (late) NAPOLEON III. and EMPRESS of the FRENCH;
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PRIZE MEDAL, 1851.

Being one of two medals granted for fishing tackle out of 26 exhibitors (vide Juries' Reports).

Also holder of FIVE other Prize Medals and Gold Snuff-box, mounted with brilliants, presented by Napoleon III., and Original and Sole Maker of the celebrated THREE-PIECE GLUED UP TRIANGULAR SALMON TROUT, AND SPINNING RODS, as recommended by Mr. G. M. KELSON.

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RIVER REPORTS.

TIME OF HIGH WATER IN THE THAMES.

To find the time of high water in the Thames at any of the following places, to the time of high water at London Bridge (given below).

	30 minutes for Chelsea.
	40 " Putney.
	45 " Hammersmith.
	50 " Barnes.
Add	55 " Kew.
	75 " Richmond.
	80 " Twickenham.
	85 " Teddington.

Example:—If it is high water at 2 o'clock at London Bridge, it will be high water at Teddington about 3 25, or eighty-five minutes later; but it must be remembered that a strong wind accelerates or retards the tide very much.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.

		Morning.	Afternoon.
For Saturday, February 2	5.13	5.33	
Sunday, " 3	5.53	6.16	
Monday, " 4	6.38	7.5	
Tuesday, " 5	7.33	8.5	
Wednesday, " 6	8.40	9.21	
Thursday, " 7	10.6	10.50	
Friday, " 8	11.30	12.0	

NOTES.—Tweed rod-fishing, and English salmon and trout fishing commenced February 1. Scotch general salmon fishing begins February 11.

THE LOWER THAMES.

GENERAL REMARKS.

On the very threshold of a "fill ditch" February the waters were out, and the Thames, like all other rivers, began to increase in extent, and to open out the prospect of a flood. The whole period of winter prior to this has been remarkable for the low and bright character of the water, and anglers have been backward in their desire to fish the river under such circumstances. There is no doubt that a flood or a push of water, as it is termed, is necessary to give a final consummation to the destruction of the weeds, and to bring the jack and perch out of their coverts into the open stream. If the present water subsides, and there are no continuous floods following, then the anglers should get amongst the impatient fishermen and be piloted to the capture of some good fish. The lamprens are coming up well with this water to Teddington Weir. The angling reports this week are exceedingly brief.

Richmond.

C. Brown in one day, 7 lb. of roach, and Henry Wheeler 15 lb. Bank anglers: Mr. Skelton, two dozen of dace; Mr. Martin, 3 lb.; Mr. Webber,

two dozen; Mr. Wright, 1½ dozen; Mr. March, one dozen; and Mr. Lomas, 3 lb.

Twickenham.

Mr. Walker, with Pert Hammerton, in one day, three dozen of dace and a roach of 1½ lb.; John Spong, in one day, six dozen of roach; and R. Coxen, eight dozen of dace.

Halliford.

George Rosewell, one day, ten barbel, the largest 6½ lb.; another day, with Mr. Hill, nine barbel, one roach, and three dace; and another day, with Mr. E. J. Withers, a brace of chub, weighing 8½ lb., four barbel, two roach, one dace, and three jack.

Docket Point.

James Haslett, in one day, thirteen perch, one jack, and a chub of 3 lb. We had a rise of water pretty thick, but it is falling again; a little brighter, and the roach will be on. Out on the 24th, no good with roach; only a brace and four gudgeon. Out on the 26th with Mr. J. L. Mayer, started jack fishing; two runs, lost them, wind blowing a gale. We came down to the same swim where I was fishing on the 24th; the roach were on. We got a nice lot of these fish. We were about two hours there. Rain falling in torrents, we cut it. Don't we wish we had started there first! But I expect to be out again with that gentleman soon, so better luck next time.—JAMES HASLETT.

Staines.

G. Osman, in two days, one jack of 4 lb., and two dozen of roach and dace. J. Keene, one day, five chub, the largest 2½ lb.; and another day, four dozen of dace; John Keene, jun., in one day, six dozen of roach and dace, and three chub.

UPPER THAMES.

Decent sport accrued to those anglers who ventured out, either on or by the side of the Thames during the latter portion of the past week; but now all is changed, the river being a sea of dirty water, bank high, and ungetatable in most parts by bankers, and unfishable by punsters. At Maple Durham on Friday a gentleman bagged two dozen good perch in an hour and a half, fishing with one minnow on a paternoster, best fish going 1½ lb. At Hurley, Mr. Dupre and party, with the ever-smiling "Tom," have been trying their luck with the roach and perch, but the elements have been dead against success. I have no report from Marlow; but from Cookham I glean that Godden and patrons have had the following:—On one occasion, in a few hours, a handsome basket of roach, and on another eleven dozen of grand roach, 30 lb. weight, with a 3 lb. jack to grace the bag, and again on Friday, Godden with a gentleman, jack, 10 lb., and another 3½ lb., the same gentleman on Saturday getting three dozen roach and a 2 lb. jack. A visitor staying at the Bel and Dragon, Cookham, on one occasion last week successfully punted three jack, going respectively 7 lb., 6 lb., and 1½ lb., the baby being, of course, returned to its mother element to grow wiser and better. At Maidenhead, Mr. Clark, with H. Wilder, has had eight jack of between 3 lb. and 4 lb., the best not scaling over 5 lb. Ned Andrews, with a patron in the Maidenhead waters, has done well amid the chub, finding the fish more particularly in shallow water, presumably in consequence of the mildness of the atmosphere, and consequent warmth of the water. Thursday evening, Jan. 31.—The river is still rising, and as rain still continues to fall, a flood may unfortunately be anticipated. Fishing with any great chance of success is out of the question; but possibly roach might be had by legering the eddies, or even perch and jack tempted with a paternoster in the same quiet nooks; but in the stream it is chaos, with a stiff sou'-wester as an additional comforter.—MARLOW BUZZ.

Goring.

Water now very thick, and going up fast. Every prospect of a high flood now. Have nothing to report this week, no one has been out—water having been so bad. Prospects at present look bad for this season.—JOHN RUSH.

Anchlme District.

We have had a specially stormy week; few anglers have therefore been out, and the sport has been moderate. The lease of the Riverhead Fishery has been duly executed, and day tickets at 1s. and season tickets at 5s. may now be had of Mr. Ford, Manor Fishery, Caistor; Mr. Scott, Moortown Station; Mr. Parkinson, Moortown; and Mr. Howden, South Kelsey. Two gentlemen tried this new water for the first time last week, and though the day was very tempestuous, they did fairly. The largest fish was a well-fed pike of about 6 lb. We hear of a goodly number who speak of taking tickets, and from what I know of the water I am sure, if they can angle, they will not return empty-handed.—THOMAS FORD, Caistor.

The Avon (Binton Bidford, &c.).

Since sending my last report, we have suffered all vicissitudes of weather and water, from almost midsummer to midwinter in the one case, and from almost drought to flood in the other; and the fishing has been, as a matter of course, of the same capricious nature. I heard of one angler, certainly, who was seen toiling home under a very heavy burden, slung across his shoulder on his rod, and who in reply to the question, "Fish, Tom?" gave the laconic and expressive answer, "What do you think it is?" To the further question, "What is the weight?" the equally satisfactory rejoinder was returned, "60 pounds." How the hearts of anglers did rejoice! Fishing was certainly about to look up; and to what a depth of disappointment did they sink when the truth came out that the burden on the angler's shoulders was nothing of more importance than pigs' legs (not caught in the river, of course, but bought somewhere in the neighbourhood). A few pike have been taken, notably one of fourteen pounds in the Arrow, at Wixford, and another of eight pounds taken at the same place. Water at time of writing high, and out of angling condition.—J. E. B.

Chichester.

Stormy weather still keeps anglers from the waterside, but we are more favoured than our brethren in East Sussex, who are flooded out. A few jack have been landed; Mr. W. Coombes taking a couple of 4 lb. fish, and Mr. Wright one about the same weight; most were taken with shiners about an inch long, larger baits being refused. On Monday the weather was beautifully fine; several anglers were out; some members of the Brighton Society paying us a visit, but returning empty handed. The Selham water is in good condition and fish numerous. Some London anglers had good sport among the roach on Tuesday.—GEORGE F. SLATER.

Dove.

I have very little to report this week. The weather has been very wet and rough, and very anglers have dipped a line. A thick aqueous mist prevails to-day (Thursday), and rain has fallen heavily, the river now running at great height, and promises to assume the consistency of soup. This will prevent a resumption of operations before Monday or Tuesday. Before the elements became so unsteady a few grayling were being taken, but the average was not more than three brace per rod. The killing flies were the red bumble, the blue dun, and the furnace. We are now within measurable distance of the trout season, and the fish will be found very forward.—THE SPODGER.

Exe (Exeter).

The late gales and rains have swollen the river very much, and only in the backwaters near Cowley Bridge, has any sport been procurable. Messrs. Mole, Lock, and others have caught some nice pike and a few perch there. Thursday I saw a blue-bottle, and only two weeks ago I was fishing near Pynes, and was tormented with a swarm of gnats—quite a reversion in the order of things. Some nice eels and perch have been taken from the canal, near Turf and Lime-kilns.—J. A. KELLEY.

Leicester.

The inclement weather that we have had lately has almost completely put a stop to angling operations for the present. Saturday last a most violent storm, accompanied by lightning, heavy rains, and strong gusts of wind, passed over the neighbourhood. This had the effect of bringing the water down in large quantities, and the river at Aylestone became bank full. At the early portion of this week there was a slight improvement, and in quiet spots a few were trying for roach, but the sport was of the most meagre description. On Thursday there was almost incessant drizzling rain the whole of the day, and the waters were a good height and very much discoloured, so that it will be some days under the most favourable circumstances before fishing will be again practicable.—ALERT.

Lugg and Arrow.

This district has been visited by some very heavy storms of rain and snow this last week, making the water very muddy and to rise considerably; it is out over the fields in some places. Fishing is quite impossible as the waters are now, and there will be but little doing till the end of next week. The Pinsley is high and muddy.—GWYNNE.

Medway (Tunbridge).

The rain of the past week has stirred the mud up, and made the water thick enough to walk on. No angling for at least a week.—YE MEDWAY WATER RAT.

Ouse and Ivel (Blunham).

Both rivers are rather out of condition; but if the rain keeps off will be fishable on Feb. 3rd.—T. E.

Ouse (Huntingdon).

The river is in a very bad state for fishing, in consequence of the downpours of rain, and may probably be for some time, it having overflowed its banks. Nothing has been taken for the last week. I hope to send a better report next week.—H. ROUT, keeper.

Severn (Shrewsbury).

This river has been very high during the week. On the night of January 27 the police went round all the low-lying parts of the town, warning the people against surprises, they having received information that the water was rising rapidly at Montford Bridge. Through the above cause fishing has been quite out of the question. Yesterday the fishing season for trout opened, but the netsmen will for the first time be missed within the borough. This great and important improvement has been brought about by the unceasing energy and perseverance of the angling society, combined with the cordial co-operation of riparian owners, who have now shown, by the notice they have published, that they are not only aware of the manner in which their kindness, in allowing nets to be used, has been abused, but also that they are determined to put a stop to such modes of slaughtering fish. And I hope this season to see that my brother anglers from all parts of the country not only appreciate the benefits they thus derive, but that they will show their willingness to help in this great work of preservation by joining the angling society, whose terms of membership are:—Honorary members, not less than 10s. 6d. per annum; ordinary members—entrance fee, 1s.; subscriptions, 2s. 6d. And I am sure Mr. F. H. Morgan, 59, Mardol, Shrewsbury, who is the hon. sec., will have great pleasure in receiving subscriptions and giving any information which he possesses with regard to the waters of the district. The river is again rising rapidly, and rain falling.—SEVERN SALMON.

Suir and its Tributaries.

The open season for all kinds of fishing for salmon and trout begins on 1st February, and all our anglers are busy furnishing up their tackle, so as to be ready for the opening day. We had an exceptionally mild winter, so that there was no hindrance to the upward passage of the spawning fish. The natural consequence was that every spawning bed held its full quota of fish, who were able to perform their natural functions without any difficulty, and, as if to still further them in their purposes, a flood came last week, which in a great measure cleared away the old kilts, and also brought up a supply of new spring fish, so that should the water and weather permit, everything will be in first class order for the angler on Friday, and we hope ere this is in print, to see the first fruits of the fishing of 1884. The trout promise to be forward this season. In many streams, &c., they are rising already.—DOB.

Teme (Ludlow).

The recent storms of wind and rain have completely upset all fishing arrangements for the week. We have seldom witnessed for a long time such a quantity of water came down the Teme as there has this present week. For days and nights one continuous roar of water has been heard, as it passed over the various weirs from the Castle down to Day's Mills. Large sticks of timber, and large trees at intervals may be seen coming down the stream, which has swollen until the tops of the banks are reached. All the tributaries are full, some of them overflowing their banks and converting the surrounding meadows into miniature seas. The tributaries, like the Teme, are in a very muddy state, and some time will elapse before they are thoroughly clear again. Rain fell heavily in the district most of last night. The waters have mostly fallen about a foot, which is not saying much: a greater fall must take place before much good can be done. We are glad a case from Ludlow is going to be tried on Friday at Leominster, affecting the possession of unseasonable salmon. A man is charged by the Severn Board of Conservators with having

unseasonable salmon in his possession, which was taken from him by the water bailiff, and proceedings instituted.—S. LUDLOW.

Teme (Tenbury.)

There has been no fishing going on in this district this week, as the storms have so altered the water that no fishermen would visit it. The river on Sunday was quite two feet higher than it has been seen for months past, but it is gradually going down to its usual depth, and we may expect some good fishing in about a week. The Kyre and Rea are high and muddy. Several gentlemen who intended staying this week to fish this district have been grievously disappointed.—WORCESTER.

Trent (Newark).

Owing to very heavy storms of wind and rain, the river has been out of all condition for fishing this week, and so I have nothing worth reporting in the shape of sport for the past week. At the time of writing (Thursday night) the water is still very high, and very much charged with colour, and as it has been raining very heavily most part of to-day, no improvement will be visible for some time to come; in fact, the prospects just now point to a very heavy flood, and no chance of wetting a line for a week to come.—TRENT OTTER.

Trent (Nottingham).

Sport during the week has been of a very limited description, and prospects, when this report was despatched on Thursday, were by no means favourable, as rain was descending heavily. In the early part of the week the river was running at a very great height; in fact, it was bank full, and angling operations were altogether out of the question. On Tuesday there was a slight subsidence, and on Wednesday the slacks and backwaters were just fishable. A few subscribers were out at Weston and Shardlow, and at the former place some roach were obtained by the aid of the cockspur worm. Some were also killed at Trent Lock and Wilford. The Burton refuse still continues to furnish a great drawback to all sorts of rosters, and it will be a welcome delight when it is done away with.—THE MAN AT THE CLUBS.

Waveney (Beccles).

Owing to the unfavourable state of the weather nothing has been done this week. Water very much coloured, considerable quantity of rain having fallen, and no prospects for the next few days for any kind of angling—even should weather keep fine from present time. This (Thursday) evening a misty rain is falling, and does not look at all like fine weather. Wind W.—A. WAVENEY ANGLER.

Wharfe (Yorkshire).

Snow, hail, rain, and wind have been the blessings vouchsafed to us in this district since my last report, so that anglers will readily understand that few have been the fish brought to the net. John Duce, of Leeds, was out last Saturday, but his endeavours were in vain, and when he fails to kill grayling, it is of very little use anyone attempting to do so. There has been a lot of "snow broth" in the river, and all experienced grayling fishers know only too well what that means. I regret extremely that Mr. Corry does not agree with Mr. Ford and myself in our opinion that the admission of salmon to a trout and grayling stream is inimical to sport; usually our experience has been identical, but in this case it appears that such is not so. When, however, he accuses me of selfishness in the matter, I feel inclined to exclaim "Et tu Brute!" and I beg to assure him that such a motive was the very last to cause me to express my opinion upon the subject. I am thankful to say that I have leave to fish upon very many streams where from natural causes it is impossible for salmon ever to enter; if, therefore, the rivers Yore and Wharfe were ruined by their admission to their upper waters, I should still have these to fall back upon. This, however, is not the lot of every angler, and in speaking as I did, I only wished to espouse the cause of men who were able now to spend what leisure hours they have in the pursuit of sport among trout, grayling, dace, &c. If the present intentions of the Conservators of the Yorkshire rivers be persevered in, I am sadly afraid that this present innocent recreation will be a thing of the past. The only point that I agree with in Mr. Corry's argument is that possibly certain portions of the Yore and Wharfe will be better looked after by the water bailiffs; but at the same time the benefits accruing from the better preservation of the rivers will be more than counterbalanced by the vast amount of havoc caused by the presence of myriads of ravenous smelt, which, in addition to the annoyance they cause to the fly fisher, will devour the surface food which ought to afford sustenance to the other fish. Mr. Cummins, of Bishop Auckland, who is as well acquainted with salmon rivers as any man whom I know, assures me that several streams that he used to consider splendid trout preserves have been utterly ruined by the admission of salmon, and surely the testimony of a thoroughly practical angler like him should count for something. As I have remarked before, I very much regret that I am obliged to differ with Mr. Corry in this matter; but from my own experience, and that of men who have had a great deal more than I have, I am compelled to adhere to my former opinion, and say that I consider that greater facilities for the ascent of salmon to the upper waters of the Yore, Wharfe, and Swale will be a great calamity to the anglers of Yorkshire who take delight in the pleasures of fishing for trout and grayling.—FRANCIS M. WALBRAN.

Wye and Derwent.

A very great quantity of both snow and rain fell the latter end of last week, which caused both rivers to have flushes on them. Since Monday the Derwent has been in fair condition for worm fishing, and some very good sport has been had, both amongst grayling and roach. On Tuesday I saw a gentleman who had a basket of mixed fish, grayling and roach, 11½ brace, some of the grayling being about 1 lb. each, all killed with cockspur worms. I have received a letter from a Sheffield gentleman who killed six grayling with cockspur worms on the Hathersage length of the Derwent, that weighed nearly 5 lb. the lot. Two of the largest fish weighed over 1 lb. each. These fish were killed last Monday. On Thursday we had a thorough wet day of steady rain, which discoloured both rivers a little. There will be nothing but bottom-fishing for next week. No fly-fishing for another week.—GEO. JAS. EATON.

Yare (Norwich).

The stormy weather which has prevailed lately, seems to have put a stopper on pike fishing: only a few reports have reached me, and the majority of cases are not encouraging; although from private waters some fine fish have been captured during the past fortnight, in one case upwards of a dozen fish were caught, the largest weighing 19 lb., and on another occasion, Mr. J. D. Paul was the fortunate captor of a pike weighing between 21 and 22 lb., and I hear of several catches of from four to six fish, the largest 6 lb. The experience of most of my friends is that the jacks have run unusually small this season hereabouts, still there is plenty of time, if favourable weather set in, to make the record compare well with last season. The changes of temperature are most

trying to the best constitutions, whilst the weakly dare not venture out. I still hope for some cold, clear, frosty weather, and then I believe we shall have a different tale to tell, as the quantity of fish in our waters is, without doubt, very great. The river is very thick at the time I write, it has not risen above its normal condition during the gales, and with the cessation of wind and rain, trailing with the dead natural bait should be successful.—ROBERT MOLL.

Yore (Hawes).

Another Yankee bill on Messrs. Storm, Hurricane, and Co., duly honoured. It was such a large one that it took the clerk (Mr. Weather) best part of a week to count down the amount. Winter has been upon us in earnest this week. During the heavy winds the frost froze the spray as it was blown upon the trees on the top of Hardraw Scaur. Some of the trees had tons of ice upon them, larches of 40 feet high bending almost double with the weight; elm trees have been split with the weight upon them. The sides of the basin were thickly coated with ice. The sight was like a glimpse into Fairyland, once seen never to be forgotten. From "I.C.U.'s" "Piscatorial Scraps" I see Dr. Brunton very cleverly proved in a recent paper that if grayling fed upon the eggs of trout, they do not to the extent generally supposed. I take exception to that "if" because it seems to throw a certain amount of discredit upon the veracity of certain of your correspondents, myself being one of them. I and others have distinctly stated that, from experience, grayling do feed on the eggs of trout, and that, too, to the full extent of their capacity, else you would not have men like Mr. Walbran asserting that the spawn literally swam out of their mouths. Another correspondent, only the other week, stated that the grayling were off their usual feed, and he had no doubt they were after the trout ova. From my own experience, I venture to state that grayling will take trout ova whenever they can get it in the natural state. I have seen them like shadows behind the spawning trout, seize on each stray pellet as it came down to them. The latter part of "I.C.U.'s" remarks, as to the extent, I will leave in other hands. I don't think he for a moment doubted that grayling did feed on trout ova, only my "dander" did feel a bit "riz" with that "if." Mr. "I.C.U.", there is no doubt about it, so please excuse me pulling up so short: I wish our association would not open the season so early as February 14, but put it off until Good Friday. I have no doubt this would greatly benefit the river. However, I have no hopes that my wish will be attended to, for sundry reasons I could name. Any angler trying our waters in the early spring, I shall advise the upper reaches for quantity and the lower reaches for quality. I think the trout generally will be in fair condition. Semmerwater fish are more forward in condition than Yore fish, owing to, it is said, the immense number of small cray fish the trout devour during winter. I am happy to say "Wens'eydale cheese" is very scarce this year.—JAS. CORRY.

THE FISHING PROSPECTS IN THE SOUTH OF IRELAND.

THE season which opens in the Southern rivers on February 1st gives promise of unprecedented sport for the salmon angler. During the spawning period the tributary streams of the Lee were, to use a colloquial phrase, alive with fish, and the breeding season was considered an eminently satisfactory one. The appearance of fungoid disease was reported early in the winter. A large number of old salmon were taken out of the river either dead or in a dying condition during Christmas week, and all were undoubtedly marked with the big spots or blotches indicating the existence of this peculiar disease. An eminent authority on angling in this quarter—Mr. George Haynes—informed me that for thirty years fungus had not attacked the salmon of the Lee with such fatal effects as in the present year. A few years ago it made its appearance, and many spring salmon were destroyed. The germs of infection must have remained in the river, and the outbreak now was probably due to the following causes:—The weather in the early part of the winter was comparatively dry, and the water had run very low. Large quantities of fish were thrown together in small pools, where noxious weeds were gathering on the bottom. The same conditions which govern animal life are probably applicable to the fin tribe, and when they are surrounded by an unhealthy atmosphere, they are more liable to disease than if otherwise favoured. The germs of infection were probably lying about, and when the salmon were reduced in condition by being a long time in the fresh water, they were more liable to the attack of the fungoid parasite. The floods we have had in the river will do a great deal to remove the source of the disease. There has been a constant run of spring salmon during the last fortnight, but it is impossible to disguise from ourselves the fact that a great deal of poaching has taken place. Large quantities of salmon were forwarded during the month of January to the London markets.

The opening of a few rivers in January opens the market for the sale of fish killed illegally in other rivers, and this is a difficulty which the Conservators on the Lee and Blackwater have been endeavouring to grapple with. If the London markets were closed during the close season, there would be no inducement to poachers. Within the last fortnight several parcels of salmon have been seized at the railway station here, which were consigned to the English markets. Notwithstanding these discouraging circumstances, the most satisfactory accounts reach us from the upper parts of the river.

The fisheries have been taken up eagerly, and there is scarcely a place left unoccupied that is worth having. By the time this appears in print the season of 1884 will have been opened, and I trust that in next tissue I shall be able to record some important successes.

ANGLER.

DURING a winter spent in Spain our curiosity was excited when calling one day upon a friend, to observe the want of tails in the cats about the place. "For want reason," we asked, "have those cats abandoned their tails?" "For the simple reason," said our friend, "that they are too good fishermen." Frequently afterwards we were amused to witness their ineffectual efforts to catch fish from the open fountains in the court yards. They were, through the absence of their caudal appendage, unable to balance themselves, and every time they would endeavour to secure a fish they would fall headlong into the water. A good suggestion to young aquarium keepers.—*American Angler.*

FISHING AT GRANTHAM.

My friend Mr. George Ogden, the energetic secretary of the Grantham Angling Society, informs me the returns of fishing in that neighbourhood has so far been very satisfactory. Amongst the most recent takes at Denton Reservoir, for which permission to fish is obtainable, Mr. T. W. Beeson, of London Road, Grantham, caught a fine pike at the end of last week weighing 21 lb.; it measured 3 feet 3 inches in length and 20 inches round the girth. Since then Mr. J. H. Gandy, of Granby, has landed one of 12 lb., and the next day he got seven good fish.

There are several pieces of private water in this locality where access is procured without much difficulty, and the water belonging to the Association, containing plenty of fish, affords facility to visitors in getting a day's angling. I am quite sure that Mr. Ogden will give every possible information and render any assistance to his brother piscators who are wishful to visit the neighbourhood, and the excellent facilities for travelling by the Great Northern Railway is a great advantage.

I hope shortly to visit this neighbourhood again for practical purposes, which my long and tedious indisposition has prevented me doing before this season. B.

THE DEE CONSERVANCY AND UNCLEAN SALMON.

AT the Wrexham Borough Police Court on Monday, Mary Johnstone, of Bangor Iscoed, was charged with having been in the unlawful possession of two unclean salmon on January 17, at Wrexham.

Mr. C. W. Duncan, who prosecuted on behalf of the River Dee Conservancy Board, in opening the case, sought to impress on householders in particular the utter folly and wrongfulness of their encouraging these hawkers by buying fish in that condition at this season of the year, because they were not only themselves running the risk of punishment for infringing the law, but they were also incurring danger to their health by eating food which was positively injurious.

The case being proceeded with, Inspector Lindsay, of the Denbighshire Constabulary, proved that on the day in question he met defendant carrying a basket and a bass, which he suspected contained fish. He went up to her and asked her to allow him to search her bundles. At first she refused, saying it was a present for her daughter; but after some difficulty the inspector obtained a view of the interior of the bundles. He found the woman had two salmon, one of which weighed about 15 lb. and the other 20 lb., if in good condition. But the fish were what are called kelts or spawn-fish, and were in a flabby and unwholesome state.

The defendant represented she had picked up the fish on the banks of the Dee, where she found them lying.

The charge having been established, however, a fine of £1 was imposed for the offence, and ten shillings for each salmon, making in all £2, and costs. The alternative punishment was fourteen days.

ILLEGALLY TAKING TROUT AT HATHERSAGE.—Thos. Barber, labourer, of Hathersage, was summoned for illegally taking trout out of the Derwent at that place on the 27th of December. The prosecution was supported by Mr. C. K. Eddowes, solicitor to the Trent Fishery Board, and the proceedings were instituted under the Salmon Fisheries Act, 1861. Isaac Dickinson, a keeper to the Derwent Fishing Club, said he was on his beat near Hathersage on the 27th of December last. He saw the defendant in the neighbourhood of a small stream called "Newett's brook," from which he was taking fish. There were thirteen fish in a pocket-handkerchief on the bank side, and defendant was in the act of groping in the river. Three of the fish in the handkerchief were alive. When spoken to the defendant said he had left his wife and family at home starving for want of food. Defendant, who did not appear, was fined £1 and costs.—*High Peak News.*

POACHING ON PRIVATE FISHING PRESERVES.—Alfred Hambleton, quarryman, of Tideswell, was summoned for taking trout out of a portion of the River Wye, at Miller's Dale, on the 12th ult., in which Mr. J. H. Lowthian, of Buxton, had the private right of fishery. Mr. A. E. Ainsworth, solr., of Buxton, supported the information, and briefly explained the details of the case, pointing out the necessity of protecting the river during the spawning season for trout. He then called Horace Smith, a keeper in the employ of Mr. Lowthian, who said he was in company with another keeper named Sellors on the day in question, when they saw defendant in the river. They saw him throw a trout on to the road and afterwards go and pick it up, and put it into a bass which he had with him. Defendant: I swear I never had so much as my finger-nail in the river. I picked the trout up off the road, and I can find the man who threw it there. I'll have the case adjourned. (Laughter) The other keeper, Sellors, was then called, and corroborated what the last witness had stated. When he asked defendant for the fish he delivered it up without any trouble. He (witness) was only ten or fifteen yards from the defendant when he was in the water. No other person was present besides the last witness. Defendant: I say I picked the trout up off the road. I should like to ask if there is a gentleman in this court-room who would pass a £5 note on the road and not pick it up? (Laughter.) I am not an old stage-player, I should like you to know. (Renewed laughter.) The Chairman: Have you any witnesses? Defendant: Up to this morning the man who went into the river promised that he would come and give evidence for me; but when I spoke to him this morning he answered, "Well, I think I shall be better away." The Chairman: We think so too. The bench imposed a penalty of £1 and 12s. 6d. costs. Defendant refused to give up the name of the alleged second party to the offence.—*High Peak News.*

AN ANGLER'S RECORD.—At a recent meeting of the Kelso Angling Association, Mr. Pringle Stoddart gave some interesting extracts from the record book kept by his father, the late angling author of world-wide fame. The record covers a period of over half a century, and embraces the particulars of Mr. Stoddart's angling experience in that length of time: Number of day's fishing, 4,150; fish killed, 928 salmon, 1,540 sea trout, 61,573 yellow trout, and 378 pike, making the remarkable total of 67,410 fish caught.

THE FRIENDLY ANGLERS.

IN addition to this Society being one of the oldest angling clubs in the great Metropolis of London, it has been distinguished this last year by obtaining the special prize at the Great International Fisheries Exhibition, at South Kensington, for the best collection of stuffed specimens of fish. In the midst of all this success, the Friendly Anglers have sustained an irreparable loss in the death of their valued and beloved treasurer, the late Mr. W. Paine, and there could not possibly be a period when he would be more missed than at the Annual Dinner, which took place in the club room, at the Albion Tavern, Albion Street, Hyde Park, on Wednesday evening last. There was, indeed, "the missing link" in the chain which so closely unites the brotherhood of the Friendly Piscatorialists; but there was the same spirit of unity running through the very centre of this friendly gathering on the occasion. Mr. Keppel Gifford made an excellent chairman, and was well supported in the vice-chair, by Mr. N. Henderson. There were also present: Messrs. Victor Emanuel, C. H. Woodall (Treasurer), C. M. Le Good (Secretary), T. Cliff, T. Gillatt, J. Gillatt, A. C. Gifford, T. R. Sachs, W. Taylor, L. Brown, A. H. Hunt, W. H. Brougham, G. Batson, R. Mobbs, F. Craggs, G. Palmer, T. Allard, T. Hughes, G. Evans, J. Page, &c., &c., the large club room being well filled with guests. A very excellent dinner was put upon the table by Mr. King, under whose personal superintendence it was well served up. The chairman, in proposing the loyal toast, remarked they were not only good and friendly anglers, but they were good and loyal subjects, and the toast was drunk with great enthusiasm. The next toast was "Success to the Friendly Anglers," which the chairman said was the toast of the evening, or, in other words, their noble selves, and he only wished it was in other hands to do it justice; but they must take the will for the deed. He could, however, tell them, the Society, both as regards members and funds, was in a state of great prosperity. It was established in the year 1841, and had received during the last year the highest prize and position in the Fisheries Exhibition. He was glad to find so many of the members had weighed in fish, and with a total result that would bear honourable comparison with other clubs. He would couple with the toast the name of Mr. C. M. Le Good, their energetic secretary. The toast was drunk with great heartiness. Mr. Le Good, in responding to the toast, observed he was now in the 22nd year of his secretaryship, and he was glad to find there was great spirit and unity existing amongst the members. The report of the past year was exceedingly satisfactory, and showed that out of the 50 members to which the Society is limited, 31 had weighed in fish, making a grand total of 1673 lb. 12 oz., the principal results being, Mr. R. L. Pugh, 340 lb. 6 oz.; Mr. Palmer, 185 lb. 12 oz.; Mr. Keppel Gifford, 178 lb. 12 oz.; Mr. T. Hughes, 108 lb. 3 oz.; and Mr. T. Barwell, 103 lb. 2 oz. Mr. C. H. Woodall, the new treasurer, then presented the following amounts of prizes to successful competitors: Mr. Hawkins, £17 6s. 6d.; Mr. Palmer, £10 10s. 0d.; Mr. R. L. Pugh, £9 9s. 0d.; Mr. Keppel Gifford, £6 6s. 0d.; Mr. Beny, £5 15s. 6d.; Mr. Barwell, £4 14s. 6d.; Mr. C. H. Woodall, £3 3s. 0d.; Mr. Hunt, £3 3s. 0d.; Mr. Brown, £2 12s. 6d.; Mr. T. Hughes, £2 2s. 0d.; Mr. Newsum, £1 11s. 6d.; Mr. Craggs, £1 1s. 0d.; and Mr. Henderson, £1 1s. 0d. There were other prizes at summer outings, bringing up a good total of £95 0s. 6d. Mr. Le Good said he would now be glad to receive the names of those members who were willing to give prizes for this year. The first to respond was Mr. Victor Emanuel, one of the leading spirits of the Society, and who did not last year compete for prizes, liberally offering five guineas for the most specimen fish, and supplementing this with various guineas and half-guineas in other prizes. During the evening a long list of prizes was made out, and when complete will appear in the FISHING GAZETTE as heretofore. Mr. C. Hoblyn, in giving "The Press," expressed the pleasure they all felt in having Mr. W. H. Brougham amongst them, and he would couple that gentleman's name with the toast. Mr. W. H. Brougham, who was loudly cheered, replied, and said no pleasure was greater to him than doing all he could in the interests of the Friendly Anglers. Mr. Beny gave the next toast, which was "The Visitors," and he could tell them the Society always accorded to them a hearty and honest welcome. Mr. A. C. Gifford, whose name was associated with the toast, in his reply, thanked the members for the cordial manner in which it had been received. The frequent visits among them on the meeting nights convinced him that a good bond of fellowship existed, and that the Society was true to its name. He sincerely wished them God speed, and long may the Society continue to flourish. Mr. N. Henderson, in giving the "Officers of the Society," remarked that all were united in their work, and there was no neglect of duty. The toast of "The Chairman" was drunk amidst great applause, and he was heartily congratulated on the admirable manner in which he had carried out his duties, and in having maintained

throughout the evening good fellowship and feeling amongst them. Mr. Keppel Gifford, in few words, gracefully replied to the toast, and thanked them one and all for their kind reception of his name. The remainder of the evening was kept up in harmony, and at a somewhat late hour the Friendly Anglers retired to their respective homes, evidently delighted with the enjoyments of the evening, and they did not separate without expressing to the worthy host their great satisfaction at his catering. It may here be mentioned that the Friendly Anglers have not only one of the best club rooms in London; but through the kind liberality of Mr. King, the proprietor, there is no charge made for its use.—B.

NOTES FROM ABERDEENSHIRE, SCOTLAND—THE DEE.

"A rood o' Don's worth twa o' Dee,
Except it be for fish or tree."

THERE has not within our recollection ever been such a demand for fishing on the Dee as has been evidenced this year already. Though nearly two weeks must elapse ere the commencement of the season, the proprietors (lessors) of fishings on Deeside have within the past month received the earnest of a highly profitable harvest. Not only has the keenness of the competition produced a change of tenants on several well-known reaches, but has likewise induced in one or two instances the proprietors of fishings hitherto unlet to part with them to the highest bidder. Last year's spring fishing was particularly good, and the lets fairly high; but this year they are exceptionally and unprecedentedly so. Should the approaching season prove unproductive of good sport to anglers, it goes without saying that the figure lessors have received, in a good many cases, will then have reached a maximum. On dit that in some instances, in consequence of fabulous prices being asked, lets have not been obtained, and are not likely to be, unless the lessors can see the wisdom of agreeing to a modified reduction. It is reported that as much as £35 have been asked for a very small section (about seventy yards in length), inconvenient in every way, and on one side of the river only. Now, were anglers ever so enthusiastic, and money ever so plentiful amongst them, such preposterous expectations could hardly be realised, more especially when, in instances like the one cited, gentlemen angling on the opposite side can command the river much more effectively. It is to be hoped better judgment will prevail, else proprietors will certainly find their uncompromising attitude working out such results as they have no reason to anticipate with pleasure. With reference to the upper portion of the river, Mr. George Smith, Ballater, reports that the Invercauld Private Water (Col. Farquharson's) has been let to J. O. Wordie, Esq., London; the Invercauld Hotel Water for two months to H. Hodges, Esq., and Monaltrie to F. Pickop, Esq., tenant. Lord Arbutnot has rented Garlogie for the early fishing. Mr. War-rack, London, will fish the Upper Blackhall section (four miles of pool and stream alternating) by anglers accounted second to none on the Dee. Cairnton, opposite (equally good water) is likely to be again rented by Sir Reginald Cathcart, of Cluny, and Mr. Farley. The following are the other lets up to date:—Inchmarlo and Seine, R. Barbour, Esq., Nottingham; Lower Blackhall and Riverston, A. M. Aitken, Esq., London; Kineskie and Lower Crathes, A. Grimbles, Esq., Junior Carlton Club, London; Banchory Lodge, J. J. Todd, Esq., Aberdeen; Invery, General Oliphant; Wester Durriss, R. S. Hills, Esq., London; Dwiris, General Kane; Lower Dwiris, Dr. Macdonald; H. M. I. S. Park, W. Scheuster, Esq., London; Kingcourse (proprietary), A. I. Potescue, Esq., of Swanbister. The Dee has long held a premier position as a salmon river, and when in good condition for angling rare sport is usually obtained. Last autumn a friend of the writer's landed within two days twelve fish, averaging 18 lb. They all rose to the same fly—a gardener, dressed by Milne, Aberdeen. For spring fishing plain flies are most in favour. Long irons—from 2½ to 3½ inches, varied according to the state of the river—are becoming more and more popular every year. Double irons (small) are more used than the single during the grilse season—midsummer. In autumn fancy flies from two to three inches are usually most fatal.

In the early season, when the river is a little swollen, the grey and yellow eagles, killer, grey heron, and Ackroyd are in favour. A large Gordon or Childer (fancy) might also be used with success. When the river is in its normal condition, the "Jock Scott," Ackroyd, heron (dark or grey), Glentanar, Rintoul, Gordon, and Lady Caroline (all small—2 to 2½ inches) prove very good killers usually. The "Ba'moral" fly (green body, silver tinsel, black hackle, jungle cock, red wings, and golden pheasant tag) has quite recently become very popular. When the grilse season is at its height the silver doctor, dusty miller, bumble bee, Logie, Glentanar killer, Gordon, Childer, and Jock Scott are found to work best. For autumn fishing we recommend the butcher, gardener, silver grey, Jock Scott, and Gordon, a three-inch size of the latter (long shank) for turbid water; and at night a large white eagle fly or natural minnow.

A forecast of the prospects is rather a hazard. A great many fish have been seen ascending the river for more than a month, but that of itself ensures no certainty of good sport being obtained when the season fairly commences. The cry is "Snow, snow, no snow on the hills." Now, a good and prolonged spring fishing on the Dee depends entirely upon a fairly high running river. For the first week or two the prospects are highly promising, unless some very decided atmospheric change takes place. Everything externally will be pleasant and agreeable, the river in capital trim, and plenty of fish no doubt got. But, unless a pretty heavy coating of snow covers the Western hills very soon, good sport cannot long continue. Lochnagar, Ben Macdhui, Cairngorm, Benabuir, &c., from which the Dee is chiefly fed, are at present only slightly crested with snow, as is their usual condition in early summer. How, then, is the river to keep in good order when, in the ever-lengthening day, Old Sol, with increasing power, beats down upon it? Truly the present weather is a puzzling phenomenon; to gauge the prospects accurately is a sheer impossibility.

Writing from Braemar*, Mr. Morgan says, "Several newly-run salmon have been seen here already." At Ballater (forty-five miles) clean fish are quite plentiful. The spawning season was exceptionally good; the river maintained an even flow during the greater part of the time. Kelts are returning to the sea with every rise of the river. Fungus has completely disappeared. Excepting a gale the other day, the weather since the new year has been open and mild. All are desirous for a change, and a change may soon come with a vengeance, for "winter never rots in the sky."

W. M.

* Sixty-five miles up the river.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

C. K. T., Aylesbury.—We would recommend Mr. Vickery's water for pike and perch, at Torcross, Devon (see his advertisement under "Angling Quarters"). Several friends who have been there speak highly of the place and the fishing. Or you ought to do well if water is right at Ringwood, on the Avon; the White Lion Hotel has a long stretch of the water, which can be fished on payment. We should have thought you could have got fishing in some of the waters in your own neighbourhood. Lakes in gentlemen's parks are the places for "big takes."

ANXIOUS.—It has been in print for some weeks, and we are only waiting an opportunity to get it in, with many other things which were set up by the printer weeks ago.

J. R., Regent's Park.—Elstree Reservoir can be fished on payment of 1s. for bottom and 2s. 6d. for pike fishing. The New River is not open to anglers.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

[Many letters and articles are crowded out this week.—Ed.]

ANGLING SLANG.

SIR,—As a reader, more or less, of angling literature, let me thank you—in common, I am sure, with all who have the welfare of angling at heart—for your excellent remarks in a recent number of the FISHING GAZETTE on the delectable practice of writing "fishing slang."

Hitherto followers in the steps of that most simple and unaffected of authors, Izaak Walton, have been pretty generally free from this special form of vulgarity which marks the distinction between the "sporting man" and the sportsman.—I am, &c.,

H. CHOLMONDELEY PENNELL.

PIKE FISHING IN DEEP WATER.

SIR,—I have received many letters from readers of the GAZETTE relative to fishing water from 12 feet to 40 feet deep, "pater" and "live-bait snap."

In "paternostering" such deep waters, my plan would be to bait with a lively 5 inch dace on single hook, through both lips, and the hook looped to the gut trace, at least three feet or even four feet above the plummet, which should weigh one oz., and then you can find the bottom at any depth.

The "sneck-bend" hook should be bound on fine (No. 3) copper gimp, 14 inches in length, so as to give the dace plenty of tether to "pirouette." I cannot see how it is possible to spin water 60 or 80 feet deep such as Mr. H. D. Crompton writes to me about, however slow you may spin; 20 lb. and 30 lb. pike do not go far for a "spinning-bait." They are like fat Aldermen, and will not bother themselves. They like to feed in comfort, and have "tit-bits" taken to them; hence the success of "paternostering."

In "live-bait snap" you can fish any depth. There is scarcely any limit, if the "travelling-float" method is adopted.—Yours, &c.,

ALFRED GEO. JARDINE.

38, Old Change, E.C.
Jan. 31, 1884.

FEATHERS FOR FLY-MAKING.

SIR,—It has often occurred to me that breeders of fowls for fly-making might do more business with amateurs than they do at present. I am always on the look-out for good hackles, and am willing to pay a reasonable price for them, and I can say the same for at least one of my fly-tying acquaintances. If Mr. Rowe or other breeders of blue and honey dun fowls would make their feathers accessible, I think it is quite possible that they would meet with a ready sale, especially as the feathers required for Hampshire are very small, much smaller than those used in Devonshire, so that what happens to be most prized by us might be useless to those who breed the fowls. But I would not buy any but picked feathers. I have experience enough to know at a glance what shape and size will make a good fly, and reject all others. When I first took to fly-making I bought feathers by the gross, and often found about half of them quite unsuited in shape for a neat fly, and within the last week I have turned over several gross of beautifully-coloured Devonshire feathers, and sometimes out of a gross did not get a single feather which could possibly make a neat dun of the size I use. But if, after receiving from me samples for size, shape, and colour, any reader of the GAZETTE will offer to supply such feathers at a reasonable figure, I shall be most happy to negotiate with him, on behalf of myself and friends.—I am, &c.,

H. S. HALL.

January 26th.

A LARGE TAKE OF JACK IN THE RIVER STOUR.

SIR,—Having occasion to pay another visit to the quiet little village of Bures last week, for a few days' angling, I was much astonished on my arrival to find Mr. Thompson, landlord of the Eight Bells Inn, at that place, was just returning home, after a day's fishing, with a splendid take of the above, which he caught with rod and line near here—the total weight of fifteen having turned the scales at a little over 90 lb. On the following day, Wednesday, the 23rd ult., six more fell a prey to our two rods, averaging 5 lb. apiece, taken in a little over three hours, the wind (which was blowing a gale) then putting a stop to any further sport for that day. The fish were much admired by a large number of visitors during the evening and following day.—I am, &c.,

A. M. B.

Jan. 28th.

NIGHT FISHING IN THE THAMES.

SIR,—Once more only, and to close this subject, may I claim your notice?

Let me first mention errors of print: in the fifth paragraph of my letter in last week's issue, "interpretation" should be *interpolation*; in the sixth paragraph, "below Thames" should be *below Staines*.

In the column of "Scraps," by your slangy contributor, "I. C. U.," I perceive, what has afforded me considerable amusement by the discovery, through his experienced 'cuteness, that I am only a veiled embodiment of Mr. Greville-Fennell, whose literary style, known sentiments, and conspicuous ability he recognises in these letters of mine, and, indeed, we have both laughed heartily over the conceit. Nor is it less ridiculous for this very wide-awake critic to profess or assume that he knows me or anything about me, or he would equally have known that the silly vulgarity of his remarks would be pointless and

irrelevant; at the same time, his affected penetration as to styles is mere self-delusion—Mr. Fennell's and mine being entirely distinct.

These foolish paragraphs seem, however, to elucidate the fact that in journalism, as in other matters, the proverb applies, that "one man may steal a horse from a field, when another may not look over the hedge."

I admit that I often write with incisiveness and possibly not without a tincture of acrimony, yet the last not without provocation; but I distinctly repel the charge that I am ever coarse, vulgar, or abusive, nor am I thin-skinned, as you say, in the least, but rather enjoy a keen and robust retort, if truthful. The emphasis of my strictures and the irritation they have occasioned arise from their truth; yet I have referred only, and consistently, to what I have long observed (see FISHING GAZETTE, February 28, 1879), and I do not wish to disparage the decent and respectable club-man whom I have not seen. Nor is the Editor of the FISHING GAZETTE by any means excusable when he tells me I should mind my own business. My action is of my own will as well as his, and perhaps it may be a little "bumptious" on his part to assume that because, of his own accord and for his own advantage, he accounts himself a retained advocate for the London "pubs" and fishing clubs, he has a monopoly of the privilege of being didactically masterful and rude.

I was deliberately attacked in no polite terms because and when I announced the closing of the Patrick stream and Loddon. I then replied that we did not seek possession of those waters, but that, for very sufficient reasons, they were put into our hands. I am a joint lessee of the waters, and was assuredly minding my own business in asserting and maintaining my right, which is that of our association.

Now, again, as to the vexed question about the new 10th By-law, sec. d., I cannot perceive how so much mental obscurity can exist concerning it, and I will shortly recapitulate what I have written, and will again put the view I take from a different point.

It is not at all rational to assume that the Conservancy would make any rule to become effective in one direction only by involved constructive application; their regulations would, of course, except by oversight, be clear, definite, and direct.

They have no jurisdiction whatever over the towing paths, and they proclaim this by notices at many points, also warning the public that they use them at their own risk. They will not repair them, except when they become dangerous and cannot be used, and then necessity compels, because owners are not bound to and will not do the work.

But the powers of the Conservators are definite and complete as to vessels or boats on the river, and also as to the protection of the fishery and its regulation.

When Sir Frederick Nicholson was urged by Mr. Geen (imperatively, as in effect he modestly likes to put it) to authorise night fishing, Sir Frederick very warily, yet consciously true to his powers, had only to make objection of the dangers to and from boats moored in the stream during the hours of darkness, and Mr. Geen, mentally exultant, rejoins, "Oh, certainly; prohibit night fishing from boats by all means." And so the famous words were put in, and Mr. Geen's notion of winning an indirect and unsuspected success was satisfied.

But let me ask any reader of this to read the rule straight through in a true line of quick intelligence, and he will find it just this:—

No person shall

Fish from any vessel, boat, or punt for, or take, or attempt to take, above Richmond Bridge, any fish, except in the day time, &c.

The whole powers of the Conservators are here in this enactment clearly put in motion and embodied. The banks are not in the purview in any way; it is absolutely impossible, as far as the Conservancy are concerned, that they should be, and therefore the prohibition must be absolutely against taking any fish, which is the major count of the regulation.

Again, taking another form of analysis:

The Conservancy prohibit

Fishing from any vessel, boat, or punt, for—
Or taking, or attempting to take above
Richmond Bridge, any fish

} between sunset and
sunrise, &c.

All this is straight and direct—there is no twisting whatever.

The reading of the Rule or By-Law contended for is wrenched—is based on the admission of an impossible premiss, comprehending the banks without the presence of which a constructive effect cannot be made out; this factor being non-existent, and, therefore, non-relevant, the actual text of the By-Law must be taken without any perversion, and must be of the only plain effect shown above.

I am not at all surprised the Conservancy do not hasten to take up Mr. Geen's challenge. He has been quietly let down, and his position is untenable. I now leave the question to the good sense of, as I believe, the majority, and to the honest discretion of all who would safeguard the river from loafers and poachers.—I am, &c.,

J. W. KNIGHT,

Henley, Jan. 28th.

Hon. sec. Henley Association.

P.S.—No. 2 of the FISHING GAZETTE has been out of print since a month after its issue. I offered 2s. 6d., or any reasonable price for it at the time, and had no response. I did not begin to take in the FISHING GAZETTE until four or five numbers had come out.

"Controversy, though always an evil in itself, is sometimes a necessary evil."—ARCHBISHOP WHATELY.

We do not mean to be drawn into a dispute with Mr. Knight as to the intention of any supposititious by-law evolved from that gentleman's inner consciousness. Indeed, we can hardly suppose he intends his hypothetical readings of By-law 10 to be taken seriously. It is a difficult matter to keep this modern "knight errant" from wandering from the point.

Unlawful Acts. Thames Conservancy By-law No. 10:—"No person shall do, aid, or assist in doing the following things, or any of them, that is to say:—

"(d) Fish from any vessel, boat, or punt, for or take, or attempt to take, any fish except in the day-time, that is to say, between the beginning of the last hour before sunrise, and the end of the first hour after sunset."

We shall have to get our printer to stereotype the above copy of this now celebrated By-law. We leave it as it is to answer any of Mr. Knight's imaginary ideas of what it might have been had it been worded as he suggests. As Mr. Knight says he has taken in the GAZETTE since its commencement, we will ask him if he can point out any single instance where we have countenanced unseemly conduct on the part of anglers? If it were necessary we could refer to numbers of cases in which we have denounced such conduct in men calling themselves anglers, but who in nineteen cases out of twenty have no right to the title, and do not belong to any club enrolled on the lists of one or other of our three associations. These clubs have the power to expel disorderly or

dishonest members, and exercise it when necessary, as the records of the associations will prove. Our experience of club anglers is that, as a body, they will compare most favourably with any other class of sportsmen or sporting men. The "publicans," at whose houses working men anglers meet, seem to be most grievous "sinners" in the eyes of Mr. Knight. We can only say that almost to a man we have found them straightforward, honourable, and honest men, many of them as true anglers as ever gripped a rod. What earthly difference is there in the fact that twenty or thirty working men meet at a publichouse, and twenty or thirty gentlemen meet at an hotel? The object sought is the same in both cases—viz., a room in which to meet, transact business, and discuss angling matters; in neither case is smoking prohibited, nor is it considered a sin to order a glass of beer or other refreshment. We have had considerable experience of both classes of clubs, and have often found in the despised "pub." far more care exhibited on the part of the host for the comfort of the members, and far more orderly behaviour on the part of the members themselves than in more pretentious places. We have too much respect for club anglers to treat them in the patronising manner affected by some people who condescendingly attend their meetings and complacently pat the "umble hanger" on the back. They do not appreciate it, and if they do not resent it, it is because they have more real breeding than they would-be patrons. If those who meet them treat them on the footing on which they are equal, and probably superior, viz., as anglers, they will find them, as we have found them—worthy of all the respect which one man should have for another as long as there is nothing but a difference in length of purse or amount of education between them. This is our view of the matter; consequently, Mr. Knight's sneers at our advocacy of the interests of "publichouse anglers" does not disturb us in the least. He may not believe it, but we know perfectly well that if we threw over the London club anglers, refused to insert their reports, or have anything to do with them, we should gain materially from a financial point of view. More than five-sixths of our readers are scattered through the provinces; they take little interest, many of them, in the doings of the London clubs, and many a subscriber have we lost simply because we have refused to make this paper entirely a "gentleman's paper." We use the term "gentleman" not in its true sense, but as those would use it who feel no interest, and, indeed, despise anything they choose to consider beneath their notice. Many fishing-tackle houses and others refuse to advertise with us simply because we devote some space to what will interest working men anglers. It costs us more every week to give this space than we get from it, to say nothing of the increased advertisements and numbers of readers of a different class we should get if we devoted this space to other matters; so that Mr. Knight's suggestion that in the course we have adopted in regard to him we have been toadying to the London anglers is not only baseless, but base. On more than one occasion we have at public meetings, and in these pages, spoken and written against views held by the great majority of club anglers. Mr. Geen can bear testimony to the truth of this statement. Mr. Knight may think otherwise, but our sole interest in this paper arises from an enthusiastic love of fair angling in whatever form it takes, and a firm belief in the genuineness of every man who has a real love for angling; but for this we should long ago have given up work which for any other object would have been out of the question. In Hamlet's words, this work

"Doth make the night joint-labourer with the day."—ED.]

THE SALMON DISEASE.

SIR,—I was much interested in a letter from Mr. Anderson of Edinburgh, in a recent issue. The plan he suggests, of utilising the spawn of diseased gravid fish, taken out of rivers by the bailiffs, is one which I suggested to the Eden bailiffs two years ago, but it has not been carried out here. It is a very simple plan to prevent the depopulating of the streams, and one which should be more generally adopted. I have no doubt that in most cases Mr. Anderson's experience would be borne out, and nearly all the ova be preserved, and yield healthy fry; for the salmon disease is essentially a skin disease, which, to my mind, is distinctly proved by the fact that it almost invariably shows itself first on the head, tail, or fins—in other words, on the parts unprotected by scales. When it appears first in any other part, it is on the seat of a wound of some kind, by which the scales have been removed. I have heard one or two men say that the liver of a diseased fish is always in an unhealthy state; but my experience does not bear out this statement. A fish that has suffered long from the disease, and died of it, will sometimes have a diseased liver; but in ordinary cases the "internals" are quite healthy, and the fish good for food. I speak without any doubt, for I have cut up, examined, and eaten scores. The fungus has been proved, by microscopical examination, to consist of numerous filaments or threads, which extend like the roots of a plant, the base being called the "mycelium." These filaments grow rapidly, and, when mature, bear fruit consisting of "zoospores," which are rounded bodies formed of protoplasm, and endowed with movement, and their chief object seems to be to escape from the tribe which contains them. When they do escape, they rapidly form tribes for themselves, and commence business on their own account as soon as they come across a fish of any kind, and thus the disease is spread. Perhaps the worst feature of the disease is that the fungus produces another kind of fruit, called "resting spores," so called from the fact that they remain from one season to another at the bottom of the water. These resting spores have a firm capsule, and within this are collected oöspores, which are somewhat different from the zoöspores, but they have equally the power to spread the disease, and are really more destructive, inasmuch as they perpetuate it. So far the matter is simple enough. But it is a very different thing when we come to the cause of the disease. So far the greatest naturalists have been unable to say positively what is the cause. All sorts of theories have been advanced, some plausible enough; but they are most of them antagonistic to each other, and it is difficult to point to any one of them as the right one. Perhaps the most generally accepted theory is that pollution of the river water in some way is the root of the evil; but how does this agree with the fact that the disease is known in North America in large and unpolluted rivers? Again, how is it that the rivers Tweed, Nith, Annan, Esk, Doon, and Eden stand out, above all others, as full of the disease, whilst the Severn and the Wye are quite free from it? My own idea is that its commencement amongst spring salmon was caused by an over-supply of fish in a season when the rivers were exceptionally low, and that it was merely an assertion of Nature's right to preserve the proper balance of fish life, and that it will in time gradually disappear like other epidemics. When a river runs down low, the disease spreads rapidly. When it continues full for some time, being kept up by an influx of fresh rainwater, there is much less disease, and that is the state of the Eden at present.—SILVER-GREY.

Carlisle, Jan. 14.

[Mr. Silk informs us that he once took eggs from a diseased trout as an experiment, and the fry were affected with fungus to some extent. It would be wise to make experiments to test the matter as regards salmon.—ED.]

THE AWARDS.

SIR,—It is very pleasant for one when the gas is lit and a bright fire is burning to try and forget that this great city exists while he reads the FISHING GAZETTE, which is marvellously full of interesting matter considering that we are getting on well with an extraordinarily mild winter.

I have met some people who agree with me in thinking the correspondence in a paper the part of it which best shows what the public are thinking about, and I see that the "Awards" of those apparently infatuated jurymen who seem to have "wheeled about, and reeled about, and jumped all round," in the rods and tackle department of the recent Exhibition are still being vigorously commented on, and resented also.

I am quite sure that the Messrs. Anderson, of Edinburgh and Dunkeld, would not make a single remark on matters connected with their own business unless something markedly unfair appeared to them to call for note, and, therefore, when a firm of their standing enter such a vigorous protest, on grounds so fully substantiated by an angler so accomplished as Mr. Kelson, we are bound to believe that, from whatever cause, the jurors blundered. I remember seeing the list of awards first intimated, and noting that Messrs. Anderson had got well to the front then. When in Edinburgh afterwards, however, I called to congratulate them on their success, and then learnt that the jurors had turned about and awarded them inferior positions! The thing seems incredible, and most disappointing to those who, like myself, have known the workmanship of the firm for very many years. *Fiat justitia ruat cælum* is a good motto, and justice will be done by a well-served public to tradesmen who give excellent materials at a moderate cost, even though, in so doing, jurors should be reflected on.—I am, &c.,

C. ROSS.

68, West Regent Street, Glasgow.

THE YORE, SEMMERWATER.—THE WHARFE.

SIR,—I should feel obliged if any of your correspondents who fish the above would kindly give me a little information as to the fishing, price of tickets, and where, and from whom, the latter may be obtained; also whether the flies mentioned by Mr. Walbran in a recent number of the GAZETTE, as suitable for the Wharfe, would answer for the Yore; or, if not, what kind of flies are best.

I should also be thankful for any information respecting the Wharfe, as to the price of tickets, where they may be obtained, best stations, &c.—I am, &c.,

FLYFISHER.

[The flies mentioned by Mr. Walbran will certainly kill on Semmerwater. If we went there again we should certainly try a dry fly. The fishing is free; you must walk or ride from Hawes. Our plan was to walk to the lake and fish it, and then down the pretty little stream which runs out of it, but which is hardly worth fishing—or was not some years back at any rate. As far as we could learn, most of the trout taken in Semmerwater are caught by throwing out a baited line like a ledger, resting the rod on a pile of stones put together for the purpose, and which juts out into the water—we saw many of them. Day tickets for fishing a good stretch of the Wharfe can be had, price 2s. 6d. each, at the Rose and Crown Inn, Ilkley. The fishing commences below the bridge, and goes down to Ben Rhydding. It holds plenty of fish, but is hard fished, and the fish are used to seeing flies. We do not think the Kilmsey and Burn sall clubs issue day tickets. Mr. Walbran, kindly inform us.—ED.]

TROUTING CLUBS.

SIR,—Can any of your readers give me particulars of the clubs near London? Are there any on the Wandle, Colne, or its branches?—I am, &c., H. B. G.

[We could give you the names of one or two clubs, but the secretaries would not thank us for giving them the trouble of saying, "every member has several personal friends who have been waiting for years to get in;" but this is the fact.—ED.]

RE ARTIFICIAL BAITS.

SIR,—Which do you consider the best and most killing artificial bait for pike? I have tried "The Clipper" with indifferent success, and should like to get a really good bait, as I often have great difficulty in procuring the natural article.

Thanks for mentioning my query *re* "pater," for pike to Mr. Jardine. He wrote me, and told me of his success last week. I rigged up a "pater." from his description, and took a brace going 8 lb. 10 oz. in half an hour the other day. The largest (5 lb. 4 oz.) broke away with my hook in his jaw, but came again in less than five minutes, and I had him, the lost hook and all. I hope, in your outings with Mr. Sachs and Mr. Jardine, that you will rival these mighty hunters in their takes.—I am, &c.,

A COGGESHALL VOLUNTEER.

Coggeshall, Jan. 26.

[The bait we like best for all-round spinning with for pike is "Gillett's Gudgeon," as advertised in our columns. For a deep water nothing is better than the American Spoon. Messrs. Watson, of Holborn, have a fine selection of real American-made articles, and very nice they are—only wanting smaller hooks. If Gillett's Gudgeon were made to spin on a solid tube, as we have often asked him to make it, it would be perfect, as it is, it rarely goes wrong. The tail being flexible, you can get any kind of spin you like by bending it—from a true, steady, rapid spin, to the "wobble" some anglers affect to consider so deadly. We never found it so. Mr. Gregory, of Birmingham, is bringing out a new spinning bait for us.—ED.]

AN EARLY EDITION OF WALTON.

SIR,—I have an edition of Walton, dated April 3, 1650, which contains several letters from various Masters of Art to Walton in praise of the book, also the things mentioned in your issue last week by "Severn Grayling." It finishes with an advertisement of John Mangrave, not Mangrace. As I can get another, I don't mind parting with it.—I am, &c.,

Plymouth.

W. HEARDER.

SIR,—In reference to the communication of Mr. F. B. Doveton, in your issue of to-day, I beg to assure him that the book he accurately describes is both "rare and curious." It is the second part of the fifth edition of the "Compleat Angler," the last published in Walton's lifetime (1676) and was not followed by another edition till that by Moses Browne (1750). The two parts of the fifth edition of Walton and Cotton were sometimes accompanied by the fourth edition of "The Experienced Angler; or, Angling Improved," by Colonel Robert Venables, and the whole sold with a title of "The Universal Angler" (1676). My copy, has, in addition, "A Short Discourse, by way of Postscript, touching the Lawes of Angling," addressed to Walton, and printed in the Old

English character (4 leaves). The illustrations to Venables, fourth edition, and Walton, fifth edition, are from the same plates, both works coming from the same publisher—Richard Marriott, or Marriot.—I am, &c.,
Woodford, Essex, 29th Dec. DOUGLAS TUCKER.

AN OLD EDITION OF WALTON.

SIR,—Your correspondent does not make it clear whether the book mentioned by him in your issue of Saturday last is "Walton and Cotton's Angler," or Cotton alone. If he will refer to "Walton and Cotton's Angler" (Chiswick, 1824, vol. 2, p. 119), he will see that Cotton's addition was first introduced in Walton's Angler, 5th edition, published in 1576 (see the list of editions given in the end of the reprint of Walton's 1st edition, published by Murray and Sons in 1869).

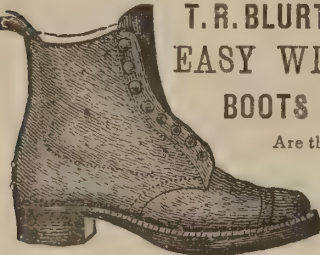
However, in 1576 there were two editions published, one in 16 mo., and the other in 12 mo.; and your correspondent further does not give the size of his volume. He would, however, seem to be in possession of the first edition.

Has it ever been noticed that Cotton gives a direction for worm-fishing up stream, casting as you would in fly-fishing.—I am, &c.,
Birmingham.

[We referred to Cotton as the father of up-stream worm-fishing in the GAZETTE two years ago. Stewart has only elaborated Cotton.—ED]

SNATCHING FISH.—Charles Povey, of Richmond, was convicted by the Richmond Bench, on Wednesday last, for snatching fish in the Thames at Richmond Bridge on January 22. Mr. W. H. Brougham prosecuted on behalf of the Thames Angling Preservation Society, and the case was proved by Head River-keeper Alfred Thompson and his assistant, Edward Wright. The defendant, who did not plead guilty, was fined in the sum of £2 and 15s. costs.

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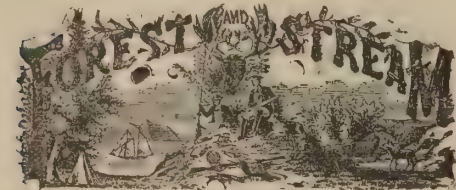


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Correspondents are requested to write on one side of the paper only, and give their real names and addresses, not necessarily as signatures to their letters, but as a guarantee of good faith. Unless this rule be adhered to, no notice will be taken of such communications.
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The Fishing Gazette.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1884.

A VISIT TO MR. ANDREWS' FISH-BREEDING ESTABLISHMENT.

BY R. B. MARSTON.

THE other day, in response to a long-standing invitation, I paid a visit to Mr. T. Andrews, the pisciculturist, of Westgate House, Guildford, in order to see his place generally, and to arrange about a shipment of ten thousand English trout eggs, which are to be sent as a present from the FISHING GAZETTE to the American Fish Culture Association.

I found Mr. Andrews in his hatching house busy looking over his magnificent stock of ova and fry. Fish-breeding seems to agree with Mr. A., for he looks the picture of a man who takes things easily, and always seems jolly and contented. One would hardly suppose that he had the care of the finest fish farm and breeding-place in England, and a large business besides. He commenced fish-breeding as an amusement many years ago, and soon found such a demand for his eggs and fry that he had to go in for it thoroughly, and it now pays him splendidly. In addition to his large hatchery at his house, he has, a few miles off, a system of no less than forty ponds fed by springs and ranging in size from two acres down to a few square yards. In these ponds he keeps his yearling trout and his parent fish, and some idea of the magnitude of his fish farm may be got from the fact that at the present moment he has about 40,000 trout in these ponds. Not having seen them, I must reserve a description of the ponds for another visit; suffice it to say they are all admirably arranged, are staked to prevent poaching, and the water can all be drawn off by means of iron sluice valves, and they are, besides, so efficiently watched that poachers have no chance.

In the Hatchery, Mr. Andrews has facilities for hatching over two millions of eggs during the season, and his annual "output"—if I may use this expression—often exceeds that number. Last year Mr. A. sold half a million trout fry and yearlings, and about a million eggs, and his prices for eggs range from 20s. to 40s. per 1,000, for fry from 30s. to 60s. per 1,000, and for yearling fish (5 to 8 inches in length), from £30 to £45 per 1,000.

He has at present about nine hundred thousand splendid trout eggs of various kinds in his troughs and trays. It was to me extremely interesting to witness this wealth of embryo trout life. Six hundred English trout eggs stocked the streams of Tasmania and New Zealand: here around me were sufficient to stock a universe. The ova was of different sizes and colour, from a pale yellow to a deep orange. The largest eggs were a lot of hybrids, produced by crossing *S. Ferox* and *S. Salvelinus* (char). Then came a fine lot of great lake trout, which Mr. Andrews had obtained from Dr. Zenk. Some of these had already hatched out in a most promising manner. A square inch of ordinary (medium size) trout eggs number about 125—i.e., five rows deep of twenty-five eggs. A gallon measure holds about 40,000 "fine" eggs. Mr. Andrews finds that equally good results are obtained by using "trays" instead of the old-fashioned "troughs." He can rely, as a rule, on an average of over ninety per cent. of fry from every hundred eggs. As an instance of the advantage of the trays over the troughs, I may mention that while a trough 3 feet by 7 inches will only hold successfully about 7,000 eggs, trays 1 foot by 3 inches will contain 125,000. In addition to this, the trays are infinitely cleaner and more easy to manipulate. The trays are made of finely-perforated zinc, coated with ordinary tar varnish. Five of these trays fit into a wooden box, which contains the water, and are made with a flange turned outwards; this is important, as the flange then supports the box when it is let into its place, and there is no difficulty

in pouring out eggs or fry, as would be the case if the flange turned inwards. A tray 12 inches long, 6 wide, and 3 deep will hold 30,000 eggs, and the water comes to within half an inch of the top, and the eggs lie 15 deep.

The following, respecting the cost of a box with five trays, will be useful:—

	s.	d.
Wooden box, 3 ft. by 1 ft. by 5 in. deep ..	7	0
Five trays, at 2s. 6d. each	12	6
Lead piping, &c.	7	0
Total	£1	6 6

Mr. Andrews is fortunate in having a supply of excellent water, which is made to pass through three large cisterns, and thus settles down before it reaches the trays. He informs me—and it is a hint worth remembering—that water from a high pressure is too highly aerated, is unfit for respiration, and kills the fish. The following information is also most valuable. For twenty-four hours after being stripped from the fish, eggs can be washed and manipulated almost with impunity; then for three or four weeks and until "eyed" they are extremely delicate, and should be disturbed as little as possible. When fairly "eyed," they will stand an almost incredible amount of judicious manipulation; indeed, Mr. A. once upset a box of 25,000 eggs on to the floor and then swept them up without appreciably injuring them. In the garden are several large tanks for holding yearlings and other trout. Mr. Andrews netted out some of these to show me, including some very fine *fontinalis*. It would be impossible to imagine finer or more healthy-looking fish—not a trace of the imperfect gill covers, showing the red gills, as is so often seen in artificially-reared trout which have not been properly treated. I asked him what his opinion was of *fontinalis*, and he replied that they were splendid fish for ponds or any water where they can be prevented from escaping, but that they certainly do not answer in English rivers. This fully confirms what I have repeatedly stated in this paper.

RE-STOCKING A TROUT STREAM.

Mr. A. related to me a most encouraging instance of how a river may be re-stocked. Some years ago he set his heart on a stream which he knew was capable of feeding trout to any extent. There were none in it then, as they had all been killed by the chemical refuse from a mill. The mill did not pay, and had been converted into a harmless factory of some kind, and the river had gradually regained its aquatic vegetation, and with it insect life. Without saying anything to anyone, he placed about 20,000 fry into this stream, and in three years' time the river was so well stocked that a gentleman wrote to the *Field* to point out the wonderful manner in which a stream, if left to itself, will reproduce trout when the injurious refuse has been done away with.

Mr. A. quietly stepped in and explained the wonder in a very much more rational manner. He still continues, every year, to put a few hundred yearlings into it, and it is now probably, for its size, the best bit of trout water in the county of Surrey—the fish running very large.

In another case, he turned about twenty-five brace of trout (averaging 2 lb. each) into a tributary of the Wey, and now fish of 4, 5, and even 8 lb. are not uncommon.

It is pleasant to know that one who has unostentatiously done so much to increase that splendid fish, the trout, is himself an ardent and skilful fly-fisher. I spent a long time looking over his rods and flies, of which he has enough to stock a tackle shop. He showed me a capital fly rod, made to his order by Mr. Bowness. It had duplicates of second, third, and top joints; these are carried by placing them so that the ends rest in a corner of a big "Freaker" bag, the tops rest over the left shoulder, and Mr. A. is thus prepared for any accidents, and he gives his fish no more law than his tackle will permit. I confess, for my part, I should not like to be encumbered with any spare joints except a top in the landing net handle, as I do not remember having an accident with any other joint but once, and that was in dace-fishing at Teddington, when a heavy chub took the fly, and the quick strike required for dace smashed a bad bottom joint. But even Mr. Andrews' precaution would not have availed in this disaster, as he does not carry a duplicate butt.

In conclusion, I can most strongly recommend anyone wanting strong, healthy ova or fish to apply to Mr. Andrews. His prices are a little higher than those of some other pisciculturists, but then his customers invariably "come again." He sent a lot of yearling trout (6 and 8 inches in length) to Derby the other day without the loss of a single fish.

PISCATORIAL SCRAPS.

BY I. C. U.

MAJOR TRAHERNE'S homely chatty letter in last week's FISHING GAZETTE is brimful of suggestive material, and forces the reader's fancy to try and picture some of the innumerable scenes which his thirty-five years of salmon-fishing must have made familiar to him. I have always noticed that whenever a true believer in, and hard worker at, any particular sport puts his pen to paper, he is sure to quickly win the sympathy of those who read his writings, while others may spill oceans of ink and entirely fail to set us thinking.

I am not desirous of anticipating anything which the Major may say in his promised letter, "Undressed v. Dressed Lines," as, although it is a subject on which I have opinions formed from long experience, yet it will be much more gratifying to me, and far more interesting to anglers generally, to have his opinions first, which, if I am not mistaken, will tend to open the eyes of those who have not yet given a trial to the splendid undressed lines which may now be purchased for all kinds of fishing.

An important meeting of the council of "The National Fish Culture Association" was held under the presidency of E. Birbeck, Esq., M.P., on Wednesday. I am not at liberty to state the nature of the business transacted; but I may mention that amongst those present were Messrs. W. Oldham Chambers, P. Geen, J. Brunton, M.D.; C. C. Capel, H. F. Fennell, C. Fryer, A. Jardine, T. J. Mann, W. Senior, and J. J. Manley, M.A.

A most commendable and determined effort is being made to thwart the preposterously absurd proposal that the sewage of no less than twenty-two towns and parishes should be brought so close to London as Kew, and there deposited for the purpose of filtration, after which it is to be permitted to enter the Thames near Mortlake. Can anything be more monstrous? After taxing us to the tune of millions for the construction of sewers to take our sewerage to Barking, to now erect works at our very doors, which would contaminate the air for miles, and pour its chemically poisoned waters into the Thames.

On Tuesday the committee of the Thames Angling Preservation Society met at their offices in Ironmonger Lane, when about an average number of members put in an appearance. The business was principally of a routine character, and was quickly disposed of under the able chairmanship of the treasurer, T. Spreckley, Esq., who expressed himself highly pleased with the newly-appointed river-keeper. I have seen him, and I should say myself that if a perfect disguise is favourable to the fulfilment of the duties of a river-keeper, this man should prove a veritable treasure, as Nature has done everything for him that can be necessary in this respect.

As anticipated, Mr. Story-Maskelyne, M.P. has asked for a select committee to enquire into the operation of the Acts for the preservation of the river Thames, and the steps necessary to ensure the enjoyment of the river as a place of recreation. That he may be successful must be the earnest wish of every lover of the Thames; and should he be, the anglers must be prepared, through the Commons and Open Spaces Preservation Society, to render whatever assistance, and give such evidence as, may be thought necessary and advisable. No one can complain that there has been any loss of time in this matter.

Mr. J. T. Hibbert, M.P. for Oldham, is about to introduce a bill into the House of Commons to amend the "Fresh-water Fisheries Act," and if I am correctly informed, Mr. P. Geen has had an interview with him with the hope that the coarse fish anglers' wishes, as expressed in the seven resolutions passed at the meeting over which he presided at the Society of Arts' room, may be incorporated with it. I have no doubt but that we shall shortly hear full particulars on this very important subject.

Mr. J. Cookson, of the Aquarium, Nottingham, being determined to raise the wind somehow, hit upon the novel idea of offering two pounds, to be fished for in his "Large Tank," entrance sixpence. I am not in a position to state the result; but that many Nottingham anglers parted with their sixpences for permission to make fools of themselves is open to doubt. Tom-foolery is catching; still I don't fear that Captain Hobson, of the Westminster Aquarium, is in danger of attempting to win fame and fortune by this device.

The report of the Friendly Anglers' dinner has given us some extraordinary facts and figures which are worthy of attention, and the report itself is interesting not only for the information which it gives, but also for what it leaves us to infer. We are told that no less than 1673 lb. of fish were actually weighed in; and that a sum of £95 was taken in prizes, one member alone taking as much as £17 6s. 6d. Unfortunately, nothing whatever is said of the aid given to preservation societies and contributions to this and that appeal, which, after all, is infinitely more important to the angling public generally, than the facts we are favoured with. Possibly, modesty has prevented them speaking of the good work they have done. If this should be the case, will Mr. Le Good kindly send I.C.U. a balance sheet, through the Editor? and he will give it good advertisement.

"Lord, Lord! how this world is given to lying!"—(*Falstaff*)
That lying cannot yet be considered as one of the lost arts, is

pretty evident to anyone who, like myself, is in a position to apply the necessary tests to the reports of extraordinary takes with which we are occasionally favoured. I am really beginning to fear that it might have been a very wise man who first said that "if horse jobbers and anglers went to heaven, all other men were perfectly safe." If anyone wants a sample of out-and-out barefaced lying, which should certainly entitle the author to a chorus of "Give Him the Copper Kettle," I can recommend him the next paragraph.

The anglers of Oxford have somewhat suddenly woke up, and are taking a more lively interest than formerly in angling matters, and their local press being desirous of keeping up with their readers' requirements, have given space for fishing reports. The following is one of such reports taken from the *Oxford Chronicle* of the 26th of January:—

"At Pinkle Weir large catches of jack have resulted, from the efforts of piscatorial sportsmen, the takes being 50 lb., 60 lb., 70 lb., 80 lb., and 100 lb. daily, the fish biting well, and being apparently inexhaustible."

I happen to know Curtis, the lock-keeper, who is one of the most trustworthy of men, and whose house overlooks Pinkle Weir Pool; therefore, nothing could be easier for me than to test this particular report, and I did so, with the deplorable result that I find that it cannot even be called a case of gross exaggeration, but must be spoken of as a lie from beginning to end.

Can nothing be done to put a stop to "fishermen's weights"? Is it not possible for us to give the net weight and be believed? Must we go on deducting a lumping percentage from all we hear and read, and if so, would it not be better for some clever man to give us a scale by which we might arrive at each angler's true catch. For instance, 10 per cent. off mild Brown, 25 off strong Jones, 50 off gross Robinson, 100 off lying Mr. So-and-so, and then might follow a list of those who believe in and love the truth, be it what it may.

Re Fennell-Knight letters.—The extraordinary, sudden, and complete collapse of the two Henley admirers of London anglers in general is quite alarming. What can have happened—(I can only make a guess)—to so thoroughly unnerve and rob the practised pen of all its literary ability? The dash, go, and consider not, which we all admired, is totally absent now; indeed, so great is the contrast between the first and the last letter that I am forcibly reminded of the olfactory suggestive saying in respect to Lord Mayor's Show.

So it was "we," after all. "We both laughed heartily over the conceit of I. C. U." This "we" is very interesting, especially if considered together with the fact that there is no denial of my assertion that Mr. Fennell either wrote or dictated these letters. Did "we" get in by accident while the two were still suffering from the effects of—well, we will say the "hearty laughter"—or was it by design, so that the right party might get a little credit for the "literary style" and "conspicuous ability"?

"We" write "once more only, and to close this subject." "We" are evidently good judges, and show a judge-like wisdom in this desire. "We" are by no means the first two who have wished to say no more about it after being found out; but, unfortunately for men so circumstanced, they can only propose, and it is invariably for others to say the last word. "We" intended to hit I. C. U. very hard; but as he was more tickled than hurt, I think he may now allow our two friends to slide into that rural obscurity from which they must be very sorry they ever emerged.

Mr. Bradfield, the hon. secretary of the Lynn Angling Association, must be gratified with the very great success of his young but most promising child. The association, of which he was the principal founder, is already one of the first in the country; this is undoubtedly chiefly owing to his energy and ability, as was most gracefully acknowledged by Sir W. Folkes when proposing the toast of the Association at the annual meeting last week.

Doubtless, some account of the meeting will appear in these columns, and I can cordially recommend it to all who would like to see what can be done in four years to form a powerful and useful Association.

It will be remembered that Mr. Bradfield gained the prize given at the Norwich National Fisheries Exhibition by the Editor of this paper for the best essay on the management and regulations of an angling society.

J. C. U.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[There are no less than thirteen columns of correspondence in type, and as we could only get a little of it in this week, we have kept it all over until next week.—ED.]

CLUB REPORTS.

AMICABLE BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

Several of the members tried their skill on the 3rd inst., but to no purpose, on account of the bad state of the water. On Wednesday, Mr. Harding, from the Lea, had several roach and a brace of chub, one 3½ lb. and the other 1½ lb., killed on a single-hair tight line.—J. WORLEDGE.

ANGLERS' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

Since my last report, I beg to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the undermentioned, from the following gentlemen:—J. Hughes, Bow Churchyard, £1 1s. (annual subscription); B. Barn Metropolitan, 10s. 6d. (donation); W. A. Crump, Gresham, 10s. 6d. (annual subscription); T. Poole, Silver Trout, 5s. (annual subscription).—R. GHURNEY, sec.

ANGLERS' PRIDE ANGLING SOCIETY.

This society was honoured with a visit from the members of the South London United and several other societies from over the water, on the 4th. The chair was occupied by Mr. J. Gafney, assisted by Mr. Soar. A very pleasant evening was passed, with songs and recitations given by several gentlemen. The following societies responded on the roll being called:—Bermondsey Brothers, Peckham Brothers, United Brothers, Rodney Piscatorials, Kenningtonians, Second Surrey, Dalton Brothers, Beresford, Tottenham and Edmonston, South-Eastern, South London Wellington, Excelsior, the Grange, City of London, Crown Brothers, Hugh Myddelton, and Anglers' Pride—eighteen societies, all told. This is the largest meeting we have had this year. The next return visit will be to the Excelsior, the Hope, Bird Street, Lambeth, the date of which will appear in due time. This part of the business having been got through, Mr. Allen the secretary of the South London United, informed all present that the tickets for the next competition were now ready, and secretaries or delegates could have as many as they required. The concert was now resumed by several gentlemen, among whom were Messrs. Irons, Grant, Fowler, and Arnsby, much to the amusement of all present, and finally wound up with "God Save the Queen," as the Act of Parliament came into operation. We retired to our homes with the sound of the chorus of "Far, Far Away" in our ears.—PIXIE.

[The fish you describe is rather curious—a chub with gold spots. Has he been "touched up"?—ED.]

CROWN PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

The following gentlemen have given us some good prizes to be fished for since my last report, but the shows have been very indifferent. W. Burwash, a tea service for the gross weight of fish taken at Ware, won by Mr. F. Long; Mr. Nava a prize for the gross weight of all taken in December, won by Mr. Wilcockson; Mr. Ma-on, a silver watch for the gross weight of all fish except jack (taken in January), won by Mr. J. Penn; a friend, a prize for the second, won by Mr. T. Welch; Mr. Penn, a prize for the third, won by Mr. Johnson; Mr. Wright, a tobacco jar for the fourth, won by W. Burwash; Mr. Errington, 10s. 6d. for the largest jack taken from the Lea during February; Mr. Wilcockson, a prize for the gross weight of roach taken from any water during February; and Mr. Errington, another 10s. 6d. for the largest roach from the Lea during February.—W. BURWASH, sec.

P.S.—A concert is to take place at the Crown, Clerkenwell Green, on Feb. 25th, for the widow of the late James Wilkinson (who died recently after a painful illness), a member of the above society.

EDMONTON AND TOTTENHAM ANGLING SOCIETY.

The above society fished for the prizes announced in your paper from Rye House Bridge to St. Margaret's Railway Bridge. The prizes were taken as follows:—Mr. T. Holdsworth, first; Mr. O. Wade, second; Mr. W. Ferry, third; Mr. G. Stevens, fourth; Mr. F. Foster, fifth (all with some nice roach). There was a very nice show of fish at the club-room in the evening, but they were all roach. Mr. J. Collyer, whilst fishing for jack at St. Margaret's, caught a very nice trout, going over 4 lb., which was returned to the water again.—F. A. GRAY, sec.

EXCELSIOR ANGLING SOCIETY.

We were just saved a blank on the 3rd by Mr. Hopkins weighing two dace from the Thames. After our regular business last Thursday, we finished the night with harmony, some excellent songs being sung by some members of the Wellington Society, who kindly paid us a friendly visit. I am pleased to say that the arrangements of the match for £5 a side, between Mr. Jas. Smith, jun., of the South-Eastern Angling Society, and Mr. William Hopkins, of the Excelsior, will be completed this week, of which I will let you know.—J. H. HOPKINS, sec.

GIPPING ANGLING SOCIETY.

The fourteenth annual meeting of this society was held on Wednesday evening, January 30 at the residence of Mr. R. J. Ransome, Stoke Hall, Ipswich. There were present Mr. R. J. Ransome, in the chair, Major Henry Philipps, Capt. Hasted, Mr. E. Packard, jun., Mr. Byng, Mr. F. A. Cobbold, Mr. Spencer King, Mr. W. C. S. Edgecombe (hon. sec.), &c. The minutes of the past year's meeting were read and confirmed, and the hon. secretary detailed the work of the society during that period. With an increased stretch of water to preserve additional expenditure was necessary, and a small deficiency remained on the year. This was met by the members present, and a clear start for the new year taken. During the late very open season some very good takes of jack were reported, several fish taken weighing from 6 lb to 12 lb. It was stated that one jack found last week after the accident to Messrs. Packard's works at Bramford, weighed 21 lb. After the election of the presidents (Sir G. N. Broke-Middleton and Major H. Philipps), the vice-presidents, and officers of the society, Mr. E. Packard, jun., alluded to the recent accident of bursting of a tank containing acid, of which about 100 tons went into the river, destroying thousands of fish, at the Bramford works, involving the loss of such an immense

stock of fish, and stated that his firm was anxious to do all in their power to assist the society in repaying, as far as possible, the loss it had sustained. On behalf of the firm he promised £50 towards re-stocking the river, £25 this year and £25 next year. The chairman, on behalf of the society, thanked Mr. Packard for the unexpected liberality of the gift, which, although it was not possible to replace the fish lost, would enable them to carry out a long-cherished idea of introducing a more valuable and sporting kind. It was then resolved that a small fund in hand and Messrs. Packard's £25 should be supplemented by further subscriptions from members and be spent in procuring at least 300 Loch Leven trout, 3,000 dace, and 500 chub, to be introduced to the river at once. As this purchase will exhaust the funds in hand, it was hoped that members who had not subscribed would do so at once, so that a further and larger stock may be procured later on. It may be stated that although the loss in the lower part of the river is a serious one, yet the upper part, now preserved, is swarming with fish, and the society possesses a far greater stock of fine fish than it did two years ago.—*Norfolk Chronicle*.

GLASGOW WANDERERS' ANGLING CLUB.

On Friday, the 18th ult., the members and friends of the above club sat down to their second annual supper in McEwan's Restaurant, Main Street. Mr. Gordon, the president of the club, occupied the chair; and Mr. Duncan Cameron, vice-president, the vice-chair. Among the guests present were Messrs. McLeod, McKinlay, Miller, and Stevenson, the latter of whom presided at the piano-forte. The evening was pleasantly passed with toasts and songs, and the silver cup won by Mr. Anderson was duly "haused." An interesting feature of the evening was the presentation of a handsome cane-built rod to Mr. David Cameron, secretary of the club, in recognition of his valuable services. The supper was artistically purveyed in Mr. McEwan's well-known style. The Wanderers' Angling Club competition list for 1884:—Loch Lomond, Thursday, 3rd April; Clyde, Tuesday, 6th May; Loch Leven (special), Monday, 19th May; Loch Leven (special), Monday, 18th August; Clyde, Thursday, 4th September. Intending competitors will be charged an entrance fee of one shilling. Entries must be lodged with the secretary at least eight days prior to the respective competitions.

[We shall be glad to have the reports.—ED.]

GOLDEN BARBEL ANGLING SOCIETY.

On the 3rd inst., Messrs. Henrie, Allen, Crow, Green, and Stoner weighed in roach, dace, and perch, from the Thames. The competition for the 17th will take place at Windsor, the boundary being from Boveney Lock to the Mansion. All fish to weigh according to society's rules. A list of the prizes for this occasion can be had by applying to Mr. Secretary Roach.—PIXIE.

GOOD INTENT ANGLING SOCIETY.

Will you kindly correct an error in last week's issue? You have made me say I was glad to say there was no member enrolled on the Anglers' Benevolent Society belonging to this society, when it should have read I was glad to say there were ninety members enrolled. I should not have troubled you, only it is so glaring; and kindly insert for this week's issue:—The members of the above club fished off thirteen prizes at the Rye House on Feb. 3rd. The prizes were all taken, Mr. E. H. Meade being first with one jack close on 5 lb.; Mr. Sampson second, and Mr. Winter third, the first being £2 2s.; second, £1 1s., third, 15s.; all the others 10s. 6d. each. Our supper takes place on Tuesday next, the 12th inst., when I anticipate a large gathering.—R. MURPHY.

[We are very sorry for the printer's blunder, which, however, we feel sure was seen to be a blunder by all who know Mr. Murphy, and the great interest he takes in the Anglers' Benevolent Society.—ED.]

GREAT NORTHERN BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

On the 27th ult. we fished at Bourne End for ten prizes. The river was in a very bad condition, consequently only nine prizes were taken. Hutching, 1; G. Watling, 2; J. K. Fitch, 3; Martinella, 4; S. Baker, 5; W. Theobald, 6; G. Cowper, 7; F. Watling, 8; S. Parrett, 9. On Feb. 3, Messrs. G. Watling and S. Parrett saved us from a blank with a few roach.—J. FITCH, sec.

GREAT YARMOUTH PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

Through our School Board election on Monday, we had no meeting of our members; but I am happy to say that the following have come in during the week:—West Central Society £5 5s.; Richmond Society, £2 2s.; Westbourne Park Society, 10s. 6d.; Cobden Society, 10s. 6d.; Watford Society, 9s.; S. and S. W. Ry., 2s. 6d.; Rodney, 2s. Total £9 1s. 6d.—JAMES LARK.

HEARTS OF OAK ANGLING SOCIETY.

The above society had their annual supper on the 5th inst., when the members had what might be termed a jolly evening, an excellent repast being provided by Mr. Crouch, the worthy host; after which the usual toasts were had, and the harmony of the evening was made pleasant by Messrs. R. Ford, T. Harrington, W. Rider, J. Holt, T. Williams, A. Williams, Playdell, C. Layton, Millie, &c. Mr. R. Ford in the chair.—C. MILLIE.

HOXTON BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

No fish brought to the club room on the 3rd inst., the first blank this season. Ten prizes will be fished for on the 10th, at Shiplake. The seven prizes left from the last outing will have to be fished for at the same place; date to be arranged.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

IZAAK WALTON ANGLING SOCIETY.

The members will compete for three special prizes on the 24th inst., the conditions as follow. Competitors to choose their own fishing water; all fish weigh; nothing under 8 oz. to take a prize; no competitor to leave London before the morning of the competition. Messrs. A. Bass, B. Crook, and G. Bliss had shows of roach on Wednesday. Messrs. T. Dennison, jun., and B. Crook's prizes are being fished for this month.—H. B.

KIRKSTALL ANGLING SOCIETY.

Our income last year was £89 9s. 3d., and our expenses £79 16s. 3d., leaving us with a balance of £9 13s. 3d. The water has been too high for much to be done the last few weeks. Several of our members have taken a few grayling in the Wharfe, at Poole and Arthington. Last week the wives and sweethearts of the members had their annual tea and dance. A good number assembled, and a very enjoyable evening was spent. We shall be glad to send you an account of our sport at times, if you would like us to do so.—THOMAS BOOTH, corres. sec.

LINCOLN ANGLING SOCIETY.

Our members went out on the 3rd inst. for four prizes. Our one armed champion, Mr. Bingle, again coming off first favourite, winning the first and third prizes with a very fine show of roach. Mr. H. Byth and Mr. J. Blenheim came in with some nice roach, which did not weigh in for these prizes, the second and fourth not being taken. We go out on the 10th for three prizes, which we hope will be taken with a nice show of fish. Our first annual supper takes place March 17th.—F. W. TODD, sec. pro. tem.

LITTLE INDEPENDENT ANGLING SOCIETY.

On Monday, February 18th, we have our general return visit on the Eastern District List, at the Russell Arms, Bedford Street, Amptill Square N.W., when we hope to have a goodly muster of anglers and friends.—W. BROWN, sec.

LYNN ANGLING ASSOCIATION.

The third annual social meeting by the members and friends of this prosperous society was held at the Guildhall, Lynn, on the 31st ult., and proved in every way successful. The Mayor (Jas. Bowker, Esq.), occupied the chair, and was supported by Sir W. Folkes, Bart, M.P., and many other of the local gentry. After dinner the Mayor proposed the toasts of "The Queen," "The Prince and Princess of Wales," and "The Army, Navy and Reserve Forces." All of which were most enthusiastically received. Captain A. C. Fountaine, whose name was associated with the last named toast, responded in an able speech. Mr. J. Pepper proposed the toast of "The Mayor and Corporation of King's Lynn. The Mayor, on rising to return thanks, was most cordially received. He said he was extremely obliged to Mr. Pepper for the flattering manner in which he had proposed the toast, and on behalf of his (the Mayor's) colleagues and himself he must say that he was grateful to the proposer for the very kind words which he had uttered. He was sure that the object which was ever uppermost in the mind of every councillor was the benefit of the town, and the welfare of the citizens. (Loud applause.) When the Angling Association applied for leave to fish in the Gaywood river, and to preserve and to have the right of preserving fish there for its exclusive purpose, the Hall most gladly acceded to the request. That decision had contributed to a very great extent to the benefit of many whom he saw present that evening, and who, after a long day's toil in business, could now go and amuse themselves in a most healthful and useful manner. He certainly thought that anyone who devoted his attention to angling and sports of that description must certainly possess all the characteristics of a good man. (Applause.) There was nothing in it contrary to the laws of morality, and the man who indulged in the pastime was not likely to be led astray from a right course. (Hear, hear.) Therefore the members of that society might look upon angling as a useful, and at the same time a harmless, source of enjoyment. (Applause.) Sir W. Folkes, M.P., was loudly applauded upon rising to propose the toast of "The King's Lynn Angling Association," which he said he wished had been given to somebody else, for his experience of the proceedings at their annual dinner did not amount to much. Besides, upon previous occasions, the toast had been given in such an excellent manner that he was diffident in placing it before the meeting. The gentleman who proposed the toast last year—the Rev. J. R. Crawford—(loud applause)—did so in the most admirable manner, and he was sorry that that gentleman was not present this evening to give them another speech of the same character. He had no doubt, however, that as a fisherman they would bear with him a little and show that patience which was so characteristic of the fraternity to which they belonged. He must say that he never yet met with an angler of whom it could be said that he was a bad man. If ever one met an individual who enjoyed the sport, depend upon it a bond of union would soon sprung up between them. (Applause.) He had experienced that during his lifetime. When he began the battle of life he was sent to Harrow, which was one of our largest schools. He went there a perfect stranger to all the other boys, but one day, during the temporary absence of his tutor, he got into conversation with two other lads, who were in the same room as himself, and who began to talk with him upon different subjects. At last one of them said to him: "Are you fond of fishing?" to which he (Sir William) replied that he was. An instant change took place, they became friends, and from that time to the present their friendship had continued, and since then they had had many pleasant days of sport together. (Hear, hear.) With regard to that Angling Association, he believed that it had been in existence since 1881. Before it was started a large number of letters appeared in the newspapers, but he believed that it was not until the year mentioned that the society was really established. He had the highest opinion of the association, not only because it afforded means for sport, but something more valuable—the cultivation of fish. He had to couple with the toast the name of their secretary, Mr. Bradfield. He (Sir William) had had a great deal of experience with him ever since the society was first started. Ever since the establishment of the association, Mr. Bradfield had taken tremendous interest in its welfare; he had worked very hard, and he (Sir William) questioned whether the society would have been enjoying its present prosperity had it not been for their present secretary. (Loud applause.) He would conclude by giving the toast of "The King's Lynn Angling Association," coupled with the name of the secretary; and at the same time he would remind them of the words of Izaak Walton, when he said, "We may say of angling as Dr. Butler said of strawberries: 'Doubtless Providence could have made a better being, but doubtless Providence never did. If so, if I may judge, Providence never did make a more calm, quiet, innocent recreation than angling.'" (Loud applause.) Mr. Bradfield, in replying to the toast, said it was usual for the secretary on occasions like the present to give some account of the work and progress of the association, but the annual dinner followed so closely upon the annual meeting when a full report appeared in the newspapers, that much of what he might now say upon those points would be like a twice-told tale. He would therefore pass all those subjects which were dealt with in the last report, and confine his remarks to what had occurred since then. The society's fourth year had opened very prosperously, with an influx of new members, and there seemed every probability of the coming year being more successful than the last. The fish-hatching operations of the association were now in full swing. An order for common brook trout ova was sent to Sir James Maitland's fishery, but arrived too late, as all the ova was just on the point of hatching. In his reply, Sir James Maitland's secretary strongly recommended a trial of Loch Leven trout, and as Mr. William Burditt had tried them at his fishing at Langwith, and recommended them above all other breeds, an order was sent. Something like 20,000 eggs were received on 18th January, after an 18 hours' journey, without the loss of a single egg, and they are now nearly all hatched out. That showed to what extent fish culture had been brought. (Applause.) Mr. C. W. Harding had, as most of the members were aware, been of great assistance to the association in fish hatching, but he (Mr. Bradfield) was sorry to inform the members that Mr. Harding could no longer aid them, but he

had very handsomely presented to the association the whole of his fish-hatching apparatus. (Loud cheers.) On 19th January a letter was received from Lord Walsingham, in which his lordship stated:—You may add my name to the list of patrons of your very flourishing and successful King's Lynn Angling Association, and if at any time you should want any stock fish—such as golden tench, common tench (large), rudd, perch, or small pike—I shall be happy to let you have some from my waters, if you can arrange with me a satisfactory means of conveying them alive to your waters.—(Loud applause.) Of course the kind offer had been accepted, and in reply to an application to the general manager of the Great Eastern Railway Company as to the carriage of the fish from Watton, he had been informed that instructions had been given for it to be conveyed at half the ordinary rates. (Renewed applause.) He (Mr. Bradfield) had that day received a letter from Mr. W. Burditt, stating that he would be pleased to give the association a further supply of trout fry—say about 5,000, and expressing his regret that the keepers had been unsuccessful in getting trout ova this season, the fish having spawned so much earlier than usual. (Applause.) That would make the second present of trout fry received from Mr. Burditt, who had shown the interest he felt in the association in other ways. He (Mr. Bradfield) thought that he had now reported all that had taken place since the last annual meeting, but he must not conclude without mentioning that he had received a letter from the Rev. J. R. Crawford about the Fresh Water Fisheries Act and other fishery matters, and expressing regret at his being unable to attend the annual dinner. (Applause.) He would also remind all present that the acquisition of the fishing in the Nar meant a considerable increase in the society's annual expenditure, and that the necessity for a fish-hatchery of their own must be met during the present year. He trusted, therefore, that the members would continue to give the association their hearty support and induce their friends to do the same also. (Loud applause.)—Mr. C. W. Morris proposed "The president, treasurer and secretary of the Association." Mr. Ludby (the president), Mr. A. Weston Jarvis (treasurer), and Mr. Bradfield (secretary) replied. Other toasts followed. During the evening a capital programme of music was carried out by Messrs. E. Taylor, R. L. Tucker, J. Rutter, W. W. Wilkin, A. M. E. Tuddenham, R. J. Rix, A. J. Batterham, and A. J. Rix, the last-named bringing the pleasant proceedings to a close by singing "Auld lang syne," and the company joined in the chorus. Mr. J. H. Reddie accompanied the vocalists upon a remarkably fine-toned and powerful pianoforte, which he kindly lent for the occasion.

[We much regret that want of space prevents our giving but a very meagre account of this most successful meeting of what is undoubtedly one of the best, although one of the youngest, angling clubs in the country. Our printer reminds us also that it taxes his supply of type rather heavily to keep thirty columns more than we can get into one number standing, as is the case at present. Mr. Bradfield will kindly accept this apology for not inserting many excellent speeches.—Ed.]

MORTLAKE PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

This society held its weekly meeting at the Club House, Queen's Head Hotel, Mortlake, on Tuesday evening, when fourteen gentlemen added their names as new members. This society has only been in existence four weeks, but already musters 40 members.

MUTUAL ANGLING SOCIETY.

The last meeting of our first year of existence took place on the 31st ult. at our headquarters, the Pelican Inn, when we had a very fair meeting, and spent a quiet evening talking over club affairs, and relating each other's little episodes during the season. So far as relates to angling, one or two of our members have been fairly on the pike during the month of January, but I am sorry to say they run very small as yet, the heaviest fish being 10 lb. We shall commence the second year on the 7th inst., and shall inaugurate the occasion by a dinner, a report of which I shall send you if all goes well. We hope to double ourselves this year, and, from what I hear, shall not have much trouble in doing so. We do not give prizes for fishing. We intend spending our money in stocking waters for the members to fish in to enable those who cannot spare time to go out for a day or two into the country to have some fair fishing close at home.—W. L.

ORIGINAL CLERKENWELL PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

The members of the above society compete for four prizes during this month, given by the members: Mr. Gaze, 10s. 6d., largest jack; Mr. Obbard, a prize, largest jack; Mr. G. Drew, a prize, largest perch; Mr. Longman, a prize, largest roach. I hope the members may be busy, as this will be their last chance among the jack this season, as we do not weigh them after this month. Fish very scarce on the trays of the above—in three outings, myself only having scaled or weighed in 7 lb. of roach, perch, and gudgeon, saving a blank.—J. OBBARD, sec.

PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

On Monday evening the usual meeting of this society was held at Ashley's Hotel Covent Garden. Among the members present were Messrs. Bennett, Blamey, Blundell, H. B. Brown, Fennings, Foreman, Goodger, Gray, Harrison, T. Huggett, Lemann, Perelli Rocco, Patisson, Robinson, Dr. Brunton, &c. Mr. Harden was voted to the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, as well as a vote of thanks to Mr. Huggett for forwarding reports of the meetings to the angling press. Mr. T. E. Wright, of Stamford Hill, fishing in the Avon with Mr. G. Robinson, of this society, on the 31st ult., succeeded in catching a magnificent pike of 25 lb. This is believed to be the finest pike taken in these waters for many years. It has been sent to Mr. E. Sanders for preservation. Dr. Brunton showed a new Nottingham winch, by Slater, of Newark, combining several good qualities. He called particular attention to the winch being made very narrow, and also to the barrel, which was much hollowed out. The line, therefore, will not gather up on one side and then suddenly fall over on to the centre, causing tied loops on the barrel, which all anglers know are difficult to disentangle. The winch has the new brass fence patented by the maker, and is altogether a of good sound workmanship. Mr. Sachs gave recollections of some of his good days of pike fishing, notably one in which he was fishing with Mr. Greville Fennell, when, amongst a good take, that gentleman secured one over 20 lb., and Mr. Sachs the following day one of 18 lb. The hon. sec. announced that in accordance with our rules pike can only be weighed in at this society up to the last Monday in February. After that date our members consider the pike to have commenced spawning, therefore unfair and unfit for capture. A smoking concert is announced to take place on Monday, 18th February. Members are requested to assist by bringing as many friends as possible, vocalists or otherwise. Mr. T. Mayers, of Harcourt Terrace, S.W., was proposed as a new member by Dr. Brunton, and seconded by Mr. James Lauder.

The health of the chairman having been proposed and responded to brought the meeting to a close. Members are reminded that the annual dinner takes place at the Holborn Restaurant on Wednesday, 5th March.—T. H.

QUEEN'S ANGLING SOCIETY.

The following members weighed in on the 3rd inst.:—Messrs. Maddison, 3 lb 4½ oz. of roach; Wa'ford, 2 lb. 7 oz. roach; Pratt, 1 lb. 7½ oz. roach; Chick, 1 lb. 7 oz. roach; Pearce, 8½ oz. roach.—L. WALFORD, sec.

RODNEY PISCATORIALS.

Members of this society are informed hereby that five prizes have been offered for the following fish:—Barbel, chub, tench, carp, and jack. The prizes I have received, so members can set to work at once, and do their best to win them before the season is over. Some of you gentlemen at the West-end, now is your time to set some of us an example.—PIXIE.

ROYAL GEORGE ANGLING SOCIETY.

The smoking concert that I mentioned in my last report came off on Tuesday, the 29th ult., which proved to be a great success (the first of a series we intend to give, the expenses of which were paid out of the funds of the society). We commenced a few minutes after 9 o'clock with a song from the chairman (Mr. Rider), "Here's to the Maiden of Bashful Sixteen," followed by a duet from the Bailey brothers. Mr. Sinclair was followed by the worthy secretary, who sang the "Four Jolly Smiths," with great success. Mr. Harris sang a most amusing song entitled "Mountain Scenery;" then Mr. Roberts accompanied himself and sang a song, the name of which I have quite forgotten, but it had a most jaw-breaking chorus, so much so, that most of the members who attempted to join went home with their faces bandaged with their pocket-handkerchiefs. Mr. Hallam also accompanied himself singing "There's an Arm Chair for you in the Corner," and was compelled to give an encore later in the evening, which also gave great satisfaction, the title being "Out with my Rod in the Morning." Mr. Angus sang "The Skipper and his Boy." Mr. Rider came close on his heels with a comic song, that seemed to amuse everyone in the room. Mr. Palmer, the vice chairman, gave us "Little Hero" with great effect. Mr. Hewett next came in with "The Midshipmite." Then our old friend Mr. Charl, although he has been absent from us through illness for four months, sang, "Never Boys give way to Sorrow." During the evening the toasts were drunk and responded to, and after a vote of thanks to Messrs. Hallam and Roberts, who kindly volunteered to preside at the piano, the members went home after singing "Auld Lang Syne," well pleased with the evening. We attempted to fish a match mentioned in my last report at Twickenham on the 27th ult., but we were compelled to give it up in consequence of the storm.—W. H. R.

SOCIABLE BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

On the 3rd inst. Mr. T. Keymer had bream and roach, amongst them being two very fine bream, weighing 5 lb. 10½ oz. Mr. H. Mills had perch. Our members fish at Broxbourne on the 17th for a series of four prizes.—W. S. W.

SOUTH-EASTERN ANGLING SOCIETY.

We had a fair meeting on the 3rd inst. Reports as to fishing very vague, only one member weighing in, and that one the boy; a catch from Staines. On Wednesday, a good muster, the second best of the season; good business done, and a day's outing arranged for March 2nd, with a 2s. 6d. sweepstakes, each member giving in his name. Twenty-five names were recorded this, the first night.—F. H. H. WESTON, sec.

UNITED LONDON FISHERIES' SOCIETY.

The quarterly meeting of the full committee will take place on Monday evening next, February 11th, at nine o'clock, J. C. Murray, chairman.—R. GUYVER, sec.

WALWORTH WALTONIANS.

At the meeting on the 7th inst., Mr. Gilbert exhibited a nice show of dace and roach, from the Thames, and Mr. Weatherhead, jack, from Blunham. This gentleman has had some very good sport from this part of the country lately, and he reports that the water will be in better condition in a day or two. His largest fish to-day weighed 6 lb., and was in a nice, plump condition. Some of the members of this society, I think, would do well if they paid a visit to this place before the season is over, if we have no more rough weather. Among the members present were—Messrs. C. Beale, Bayley, Cain, Delchaye (sen. and jun.), Gilbert, Griffin, Hibbs, Fox, Russell, Quodling, and several other well-known gentlemen. A very elaborate programme of songs and recitations brought a pleasant evening's amusement to a close. All members are summoned to attend next Thursday, the 14th, to carry out important business in reference to this society.—PIXIE.

WEST GREEN ANGLING SOCIETY.

No prizes being taken on the 3rd, they will be fished for on the 10th. Mr. Elder, 10s. 6d., any fish to weigh bar jack; Mr. Coleman, sen., carpenter, jack only; Mr. Coleman, jun., roach case, heaviest weight, bar jack; Mr. Guyver, 10s., specimen fish, bar jack.—J. GUYVER, sec.

RICHMOND PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

THE ANNUAL REPORT.

In submitting their annual report to the members, the committee have to congratulate them on the continued prosperity of the society.

The number of members on 31st December, 1883, was ninety-six, an increase of eight as compared with the year 1882.

The gross receipts for the twelve months, including the balance brought forward, amount to £76 10s. 9d., and the disbursements to £77 0s. 11d., showing a sum of 10s. 2d. as due to the treasurer. The extra expenses are for rent of water at Ashford, musician's salary, the purchase of a book-case, and a donation of £3 3s. for netting reservoir.

The improved By-laws passed by the Thames Conservancy Board for the Better Protection of the Thames Fishing is also a subject of congratulation, and, although the society were unable to carry the important resolutions with reference to the abolition of netting below Richmond Bridge, which were submitted by them to the Conference at the Cannon Street Hotel, the committee trust that the Conservators

will eventually see their way to grant this much-needed boon to anglers without inflicting injury upon the few men who profess to gain a livelihood by the occupation of netting. The committee believe that the co-operation of this society with the Thames Angling Preservation Society in watching the river has resulted in much benefit to anglers generally, no case of netting above Richmond Bridge having been reported during the past year.

During the past Parliamentary Session an Act was passed regulating the speed of steam launches above Kew Bridge, and making it compulsory for all such vessels to carry lights after dark. Seeing the vast amount of injury inflicted upon the river banks, the destruction of immature fish and spawn, together with the danger to life caused by the excessive speed of launches your committee trust that the members will take note of any infringement of the By-laws, and report the same immediately to the Conservancy officers, by which an effectual check may be placed upon what has hitherto been a serious annoyance and danger to anglers.

It is with pleasure that your committee record the award of a silver medal to the society for their exhibit of fish at the Great International Fisheries Exhibition at South Kensington, and also that at the Angling Tournament held at the Welsh Harp in June last, Mr. Powell was successful in obtaining the first prize for casting in "Thames style."

Your society has had under discussion the important question of a half-tidal lock at Isleworth, and resolutions approving the scheme have been forwarded to the committee appointed for the purpose of carrying out this desirable improvement of the river in the vicinity of Richmond. It is to be hoped that success may attend the efforts of the promoters.

The committee in the early part of the year concluded arrangements with the South Western Railway Company for the rental of a private fishery at Ashford, but regret that, from various causes, the fishing has not been such as they would desire, and consequently recommend the society to relinquish the water as soon as possible.

The committee desire to thank those members who have presented prizes for the special competitions during the season, and also for gifts of books to the library.

The officers and committee retire under Rule 2, and with a few exceptions offer themselves for re-election.

The committee regret to announce the resignation of the secretary, Mr. Gaunt, who has been associated with the society from its commencement, and in retiring from the active duties of his office carries with him their best wishes for his future prosperity.

FRED. C. CLENCH, chairman.

At the annual general meeting of the above society, held on Wednesday, the 23rd ult., the chairman submitted the report for the past year; and the following officers were appointed for the year 1884:—

Chairman, A. J. Little; vice-chairman, H. J. Dickinson; treasurer, H. B. Terrill; librarian, H. Davis; curator, H. E. Gaynor; committee, W. Cockburn, F. C. Clench, H. S. Giles, G. A. W. Griffiths, J. P. Houghton, R. B. Matthews, J. Neville, E. V. Powell, and H. Tarnan; hon. secretary, G. H. Hester.

The annual dinner will take place at the Station Hotel, on Tuesday, February 14.

PROSECUTION FOR TAKING UNCLEAN SALMON FROM THE RIVER TEME, AT LUDLOW.

AT the Leominster Police Court on Friday last, before the county magistrates (B. Caldwell, Esq., chairman), Edward Harris, of Ludlow, was charged with having in his possession on the 31st December an unclean or unseasonable salmon. Mr. A. Weyman prosecuted on behalf of the Board. The evidence showed that on the day in question R. G. Brookes, son of the superintendent of Ludlow police, was walking under Whitcliffe, on the side of the Teme, which separates Herefordshire from Shropshire, when he observed lying on the bank of the Teme, on the Hereford side, a live salmon. He touched it with a stick, and it moved. He left it and went over New Bridge into the Borough, but on the way met the defendant Harris with four more men going in the direction of the river. His suspicions being aroused, he gave information to ex-sergeant Bromwell, river-keeper, who went to meet the men one way, while Brookes went another. Bromwell met two men on Ludford Bridge, when he saw the tail of the salmon sticking out of the defendant Harris's pocket. He received the fish from Harris. It was then dead, but not stiff. The fins were rotted off. Defendant, in answer to the charge, said that he did not know whether it was a salmon or not. He found it dead. Fined £1 10s., including costs. It is to be hoped that this prosecution will have the effect of stopping the taking of unclean salmon in this district, a practice which has for years prevailed about the banks of the Teme.

NOTES ON THE WEAR.

On the 3rd inst., a fine young bitch otter was killed in a small tributary of the Wear on the farm of Mr. J. Holmes, Lane House. Two of Mr. Holmes' children, accompanied by two colley dogs, were playing near the banks, when the children heard an unusual noise. In the little glen they saw the colleys hard fast to a strange animal, and ran shouting to their father, who came up directly and found the dogs had just finished a hard battle. The otter had punished the old dog severely. He was bitten all over his head and feet. The otter was a young one, weighing 11 lb., and measuring 35 inches from nose to tip of tail. Otter hunting will now again be a sport on the Wear, as I understand there are several in the waters.

W. J. CUMMINS.

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RIVER REPORTS.

TIME OF HIGH WATER IN THE THAMES.

To find the time of high water in the Thames at any of the following places, to the time of high water at London Bridge (given below).

	30 minutes for Chelsea.
Add	40 " Putney.
	45 " Hammersmith.
	50 " Barnes.
	55 " Kew.
	75 " Richmond.
	80 " Twickenham.
	85 " Teddington.

Example:—If it is high water at 2 o'clock at London Bridge, it will be high water at Teddington about 3.25, or eighty-five minutes later; but it must be remembered that a strong wind accelerates or retards the tide very much.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.

		Morning.	Afternoon.
For Saturday, February 9 ..	..	12.8 ..	12.40 ..
Sunday, " 10 ..	..	1.8 ..	1.34 ..
Monday, " 11 ..	..	1.56 ..	2.18 ..
Tuesday, " 12 ..	..	2.39 ..	2.57 ..
Wednesday, " 13 ..	..	3.17 ..	3.35 ..
Thursday, " 14 ..	..	3.52 ..	4.12 ..
Friday, " 15 ..	..	4.29 ..	4.46 ..

THE LOWER THAMES.

GENERAL REMARKS.

There is scarcely anything to report this week beyond fishing from the banks. At the Jolly Anglers Mr. Marchant weighed in one dozen of fish; Mr. Skelton the same quantity; Mr. Gibbons, 1 lb.; Mr. Webber, 2 lb.; Mr. Weber, 1 lb.; and Mr. Maberley, 1½ dozen. One of the bank anglers caught a bream of 1½ lb. On Monday last, between Richmond and Twickenham, two anglers from the bank caught two bream, one of 1 lb. the other of 1½ lb. The other anglers—for there were about thirty out—got some good dace. The water is now going down, and is much clearer. Above the locks very little has been done, but one of the bank anglers fishing below Sunbury Lock caught a nice trout of 2½ lb. The fish was not hurt in the least, and was put back in the river almost immediately. Mr. W. Walker, the new host of the Two Sawyers, at Twickenham, has become a subscriber to the Thames Angling Preservation Society. It is a substantial proof that he will look after the interests of the fishery for the benefits of the anglers. Mr. William Jones, who has succeeded Mr. Currie Banfield at the Swan Hotel at Staines, has also been initiated a member of the Thames Angling Preservation Society. It is also gratifying to learn that the fishermen are giving assistance to the river keepers, and especially in the Tidal Waters, where such help is most desirable. Since the above was written, an additional report has come to hand from Sunbury of another trout of 4½ lb. having been caught by a bank angler, and one of 2 lb. below the water gallery at Hampton Court, and both put back again. The weather is so mild, and the anglers fishing for worms, will account for the capture of trout.

Datchet.

The water is lowering fast, and is in very good condition. On the 6th, Mr.

Carey had about a dozen good roach and a great many bites, also an eel of 1 lb. To-day he caught a few perch with lobworm, and a barbel, 3 lb. On the 7th I was with a patron a few hours; took two dozen roach and a chub 3 lb. with paste. If the jack and perch were tried, some sport ought to be had.—G. LUMSDEN.

Twickenham.

Self and J. Spong, seven dozen of dace in one day; with Spong again, three dozen of roach, all in good condition. Although the water is thick, I am very pleased to say that it is now getting in first-class condition for all-round fishing.—W. WALKER.

Eynsham.

Although much flooded, the Thames round here is in good condition as far colour goes for roach and perch fishing, and a few have been taken in the lay byes. The water is going down fast, and unless we have more rain, will be in the banks this week. The Evenlode and Windrush are everything that can be wished, and with others I have had a very good take of perch and roach. I found small lobes the best worm. The jack have not fed well this week.—W. B. HOWE.

UPPER THAMES.

The river is out of all condition for fishing, except in eddies and quiet lay-byes, with leger and lobworm work for roach, or pater for perch and small jack. At Marlow recently some fifty brace of fine trout have been put into the river at the expense of the local angling association. It always seems to be an extraordinary waste that such expensive fish should be launched out at flood time to feed other and unpreserved waters. Thursday evening.—The river is rapidly dropping, and getting into a nice mignonette colour, so pleasant to the sight of roachers. Perch, I glean from the lockmen, are feeding well, and jack should be well on by the time this is in print.—MARLOW BUZZ.

Goring.

Water now getting clear. Will be in good order by the end of the week for jack and perch. Roach now are well on with worms.—JOHN RUSH.

Oxford.

River getting back within its banks; but little fishing can be done for a day or two.—C. O.

Ancholme District.

We have this week had quite a return to spring-like weather; it has, therefore, been very pleasant for anglers at the water-side. The water is again getting into fine order for all kinds of coarse fish. Major Sutton, of Scawby Hall, turns out a nice lot of yearlings into his top pond this week.—THOMAS FORD.

Avon (Binton, Bidford, &c).

During the greater portion of the week the water has been everywhere, and angling, as a consequence, nowhere. The river is, however, fast fining down, so that I anticipate, before this is in print, some of the denizens of the stream will perforce have changed their habitat.—J. E. B.

Ballynahinch.

The season opened on the above last Friday, when we tried it with the old favourite grey-monkey, and was successful in luring four salmon; two gave us good fight, but after twenty minutes bore off triumphantly, each with a grey-monkey. A yard of good cast also a Jock Scott following in the wake. The third fish we landed, a 13 pounder; the fourth after a few minutes' play broke the hook. Prospects are very good, water in splendid order, but wind very uncertain.—BLACKADDER.

Chichester.

The past week has been warm and summerlike; the water is fining down, and is now in capital order. A few small pike have been landed; but the large fish seem shy of feeding. Some fair-sized bream and roach and a few perch have rewarded the anglers' efforts. Steps will shortly be taken to stop the bank line and unattended rod fishing. A row of lines in the basin daily, Sundays not excepted, and left to take their chance, must militate against legitimate sport. Some of our visitors do not scruple to use three and four rods, setting a bad example to those who fish for the pot. The Selham water is in good order. Mr. Willison informs me there are some large pike in the vicinity, well worth a trial when we get a visit from King Frost.—GEORGE F. SALTRE.

Coquet (Weldon Bridge).

Trout-fishing is now open on the above river. On the 5th inst, the Rev. Mr. Oliver had splendid sport. He creeled 15 brace, all in good condition. One dozen he caught with fly (the March brown), the others with worm.—A. GLASS, the Anglers' Inn.

Dee (Scotland).

The rather unsettled state of the river, the amount of ice it has been bearing down, and its general low temperature, sufficiently account for the scarcity of running fish during the past eight or ten days. Although a few kelts changed their quarters last week, clean fish showed little activity. Any that did take to the river moved upward very slowly indeed, thus affording ample evidence that the change they had made was not particularly to their liking. Yesterday and to-day gave evidence of a better run of fish, occasioned, without doubt, by the genial state of the weather and the very gentle breeze that came right down the river. The fish that are running are chiefly small, averaging from, say, 8 to 14 lb. As noticed already, the upper reaches are well stocked, and the middle and lower ones only sparingly. But fishing in the, at present, sparsely stocked reaches is likely to be as good as the others by the commencement of the season, unless a change takes place in a day or two, and for this reason: the thawing of the snow on the hills will keep the river in fair spring size, and its temperature so low that fish will rest frequently—at least, not move along so quickly—when making their way up the river. Seven cases for poaching on the Dee and Don about the end of the year were before the Sheriff last week, and in every instance conviction was recorded, and the delinquents mulcted in sums varying from 30s. to £3, with the alternative of imprisonment. We append a complete list of the lets reported to us:—Invercauld Private Water, J. O. Wordie, Esq.; Ballater Invercauld Arms Water, H. Hodges, Esq., London; Monaltrie, F. Pickop, Esq. (tenant); Corlogie, Admiral Farquhar (tenant) and Sir William L. Fielding, Bart.; Norton House Water, Wm. Lamont, Esq.; Ballogie, Lord Arbutnot; Borrowstore, Walter Leslie, Esq., of Drumrossie; Walter Evans, Esq., Derby (autumn fishing); Woodend, Major Frahm, Wales; Inchmarlo and Sluie, R. Barbour, Esq., Nottingham; Cairnton, Mr. Farley;

Cairnton (summer fishing), Mr. Barbour, Notts; Upper Blackhall, Ben. Warrack, Esq., London; Lower Water, J. T. Hay, Esq., proprietor; Kineskie and Lower Crathes, A. Grimbale, Esq., Junior Carlton Club; Banchory Lodge, J. J. Tod, Esq.; Riverstone, A. M. Aitken, Esq., London; Invorey, General Oliphant, R.A.; Park, W. Schenster, Esq. (tenant); Durriss Lower Water, Dr. Macdonald, Aberdeen; Culter, Generals Walker and Mignon. River Don lets:—Thainston, Gavin T. Todd, Esq.; Keith Hall, Babithan and Wester Fintray, Messrs. Pirie, of Watstone and Craibstone House; Lower Kintore, J. H. Bolt, Esq., Corsindal House; Fintray, Mr. H. Macdonald.—W. M.

Dove.

The river has run down into splendid order, and grayling and trout are rising well at the many early spring flies now on the water. We have not, however, had a great number of rodsters out, and it will be three or four weeks yet before the fly-fishers muster in force. I fancy when they do come they will be well repaid, as the river is full of fish, and they are extremely forward. The killing flies this week have been pretty much the same as last, namely the red bumble, the blue dun, and the furnace. There has not been a great deal of bottom fishing, though roach, dace, and chub, after being well stirred up by the recent floods, are feeding freely. The cockspur worm, so far as I can learn, is proving the most deadly instrument. In fact I can hear of nothing else having been used.—THE SPODGER.

Eden (Carlisle).

The net fishing began at midnight on Friday, operations being suspended in the lower waters at 6 a.m., and the upper waters at noon on Saturday, for the weekly close time. A capital start for the season was made, and the takes have been extremely good ever since—the fishmongers' stalls showing a fine display of splendid fish. I anticipate a very good season for the roach, which make a commencement on the 16th. There cannot be a doubt that the river is full of fish, for wind and water have both been favourable all winter; and as to the disease question, the best sign is that the fish being taken at Armathwaite—the highest fishery there is—how no signs of disease, though many of them have evidently been in the fresh water for many weeks. I will let you know what sort of a beginning the rods make.—SILVER-GREY.

Exe (Exeter).

I have nothing special to report this week, five pike in the river, and a few takes of perch in the canal, being all I have heard of, the former taken with roach, and the latter with minnows and red worms.—J. A. KELLY.

Ilfracombe.

Sea fishing during the past fortnight. The weather has been extremely rough, so that no boats could venture outside the harbour, but on Monday the wind moderated and the sea became more calm, when a few boats put off for their fishing ground. Their catches were small, a few codling from 4 lb. to 5 lb. each, and small whiting pout were the only fish caught that day. Tuesday: one cod, one conger, one ling, and two skate, were caught on the Spiller. On Wednesday C. A. Teape, Esq., caught a large conger weighing 51 lb., and R. Loach a cod 19 lb., and a conger 21 lb. This morning, Thursday, a small trawl was set at the back of Compass Hill, when they hauled 64 lb. of very fine mullet. The fishing with rod and hand lines from the pier and jetty is very slack. Weather at present mild.—E. COMER.

Lakes of Killarney.

Plenty of water at last, and lots of snow to accompany it, making it look well for oil painters and bottom fishers; however, it looks better for next week. The following are the numbers taken since the last report:—Feb. 1., Tim McCarthy, 4 salmon, 43 lb., killed by flies on the middle lake; Pat Robert, one on the upper lake, next day, 2 salmon, 23 lb., glena net, 12 salmon; Muckross, 6 salmon; James Hayes got one salmon, 13 lb., with a spoon bait; 3rd, Daniel O'Donoghue got on Flesk, 2 salmon, 21½ lb., with flies; Mr. John Noonan, one 12 lb.; next day, Mr. D. C. Cottaman, jun., got on Flesk a nice spring of 13½ lb with a brown fly of T. McCarthy; Pat Clifford got one salmon, 11½ lb., with a spoon bait, on the middle lake. The lower lake will be fit for fishing next week if the weather keeps dry, and we hope to have some good takes. 4th., Tim McCarthy, 2 salmon, 24 lb., with flies—one with a brown fly, one with an orange jay. During the last week they got 40 salmon at Waterville Weir; and on yesterday, 3rd., there were 7 salmon killed by the fishermen; on 6th, Tim McCarthy, one salmon, 16½ lb.; J. D. Coutaine, one salmon, 10 lb.—TIM MCCARTHY.

Lea (Waltham Abbey).

The water is in first class order for all-round fishing; the roach and chub are feeding in the Abbey stream. Mr. Mabury, of the Good Intent, landed one chub and a few very nice roach on Thursday; Alfred Wheeler got some very good roach at the beginning of the week. Since my last no jack taken worth notice. I hope to be among the chub this week.—PENCIL.

Lea (Ware).

The river here is in better condition than it has been for nine months for all-round fishing, as the water is a splendid colour after the run of water, for it has cleansed the weeds of the natural food, and I think Mr. Roach will go in for a bit of artificial food. Mr. Wilkins, a native here, fishing yesterday, the 7th inst., with an artificial bait, took two handsome jack, one going 8 lb. and the other 7 lb., from the Tumbling Bay to the Brickfields, and I should persuade London anglers visiting here to bring Thames Dace, as they are a very killing bait. Where are the chub anglers? "That iron flap" at the Boom wants visiting.—HARRY PAGE.

Lee (Ireland).

The season opened on Friday, but the weather upon that day was unpleasant and quite unfavourable. Since then things have presented a more favourable aspect, and there has been a marked improvement in sport. Mr. F. H. Bass landed two springers on the 31st ult., and a few since. Sir Augustus Warren and party have taken five springers up to the present. Capt. Rye, in Mr. Bowen's water, took three on the 2nd inst. Mr. F. Dewhurst, of the 20th Hussars, one; Mr. M. F. Barry, two; Major Bowdench, one; Capt. Caulfield, one; Mr. Cousen, one; Mr. Gus. Fitzgibbon, two; Mr. Geo. Haynes, one; Major Trehearne, one; Capt. Abbott, two; Mr. Angler, two; Dr. Crichton, one; Mr. Beamish, one; J. Manning, of Roove's Bridge, several. The numbers put down do not include the old kind of unspawned fish that were hooked and landed. The old salmon are still in the river in large numbers, and they take more eagerly than the new-run fish, of which, however, there is reason to believe a large stock exists. The water continues in capital order, and the fish are taking well. Sport so far justifies the expectations which were formed of the season before the 1st; but I regret to notice yet older practice of attempting, by the tenants along the river, to boycott anglers. A

notable case has occurred within the last few days. A gentleman who has leased a fishery for some years past, and was never interfered with, was, a few days ago, stopped himself, and turned off the land, the tenant insisting that he had the right to the fishery, and going to the extent of advertising it to let. Another case of a similar nature has been reported. This sort of business does not open up a pleasant prospect for gentlemen—too many heavy expenses over their angling.—ANGLEE.

Leicester.

Fishing prospects have shown decided improvement since my last, as the waters went down very fast, and the weather has been more favourable, so that every encouragement was given to anglers to again tempt fortune by the river side. Some capital takes of roach have been had in the canal at Aylestone. One basket was shown by Mr. Hobbs on Tuesday, in which there were about twenty good roach, the smallest of which would not weigh less than ½ lb., and the largest was just over 1 lb. Several other anglers were to the fore, roach fishing, while the chub have not been neglected, some nice ones being landed from the brook between 2 and 3 lb. A few pike have also been had. Several Leicester anglers have been visiting the fishing resorts adjoining this town, and generally good baskets have been their reward. Mr. Pocklington and Mr. Smith had four and a half brace of nice fish from some private waters on Thursday. Fair takes of fish have been caught at the Wreake during the past few days. The weather on Thursday was very mild, and from appearances there is every chance of some good fishing before the close season in evening.—ALERT.

Loch Tay (Scotland).

Salmon fishing on Loch Tay opened on Tuesday under very unfavourable conditions, the weather being unsuitable and the water being too high, and permeated with snow "bree." On the Kenmore Hotel water six boats were out being fished by the Messrs. Jas. Wilson (sen. and jun.), of Bantaskine; Frank Smith, Glasgow; Thomas Brown, Balhouston; D. G. Howat, Glasgow; and Forest Frew of Lyleston. All were a blank. The Eastern reserved water was fished by the Countess of Breadalbane and Capt. Murray, but without success. Boats were out on the Lochay Hotel and Killin Hotel waters, but all to no purpose. The Ben Sawers Hotel water had the honour of yielding the only salmon caught on the opening day—a splendid fish of fully 28 lb., caught by Mr. J. S. Gardner, of Liverpool. On Wednesday the weather had improved, and three salmon were taken in the same water. On the Kenmore Hotel water all the boats were again out, but only two were successful. Mr. James Wilson, jun., of Bantaskine, landed a thirty-pounder, and another of 26 lb., while Mr. D. G. Howat, of Glasgow, got one of 25 lb. On the Letterellen water, Colonel Cardew got a fish of 18 lb. Capt. Murray, Taymouth Castle, fished the Eastern reserved water, but was unsuccessful. On the Killin Hotel water, Mr. Mitchell, of Glasgow, had a salmon of 26 lb.; Mr. Allan, of Glasgow, one of 23 lb.; Mr. McKinnon, one of 18 lb.; Mr. Ferguson, one of 17 lb. On Lochay water Mr. Dixon had one of six lb. The Loch is still too high, and not in good fishing order.—T. MCG.

Lodden.

Flooded rivers and coloured waters I have nothing to do with, excepting in my own particular position, therefore can only speak of that portion of the Lodden called "Turgiss," or "Sherfield-on-Lodden," which of late has been more like pea-soup, and certainly much thicker than some of that name I have seen when given to the poor. With regard to the river being flooded, it has covered the meadows for hundreds of acres, and the rooks have had a fine time of it, also the herons, the latter of which were pretty well starved out. Previous to the banks overflowing, the water running so swift and deep, they could get no food; but as soon as the meadows were covered they had food in abundance—viz., roach, chub, and dace. Several of the former were picked up by farm labourers, and much liked, fried with their fat bacon. Fishing and spawning have been quite out of the question, with the exception of eels, and, as I stated in my last report, some of the monsters have come to hand, three of which I have now alive, weighing together 15 lb. The river is going down fast, but the clouds indicate every prospect of heavy rain before morning.—FRANK GOSDEN.

Lugg and Arrow.

Both these streams are still high and muddy, but are gradually lowering to their proper level, and in a few days we may expect some good fishing. We have not heard of any trout being taken this week. The Pinsley is still high and discoloured.—GWYNNE.

Medway (Tunbridge).

The water has run down beautifully clear, and anglers have been out both above and below the town with varying success. Bream, roach, and chub have been taken with worm, while pike in large numbers, though not of large size, have been caught both line-baiting and trolling.—YE MEDWAY WATER RAT.

Moy and Lakes (Ballina).

The angling opened here on the 1st inst., and up to the present very little has been done on the Bunree. Some fine trout have fallen to the lot of the angler who has ventured out, but no big baskets have been made. The Moy itself is in high flood and dirty, owing to the quantity of snow melting on the hills. Lough Conn is very high—too high for any sport at present. A few good clean salmon have been taken in the weirs on the first day and several since, which show that many fish pass through Queen's Gap and on to the Lakes. The past winter was very mild, and favourable for the spawning fish on the tributary rivers of the Moy, and never in the memory of the oldest bailiff were there so many fish seen on the Moy, for every bed was occupied, and the spawn safely deposited. A little dry weather will bring the Moy and Lough Conn down to angling level, when good spring fishing may be expected.—FRANK HEARNS.

North-East Yorkshire (Pickering).

The past fortnight has been a succession of floods, storms of wind, hail, and rain with only two or three frosts. Waters have no sooner got into nice order than they have been spoiled again and again. Fish have also fed very badly, hardly any grayling rising, flies scarce. Trout fishing was begun on the 1st, Feb. in open waters; a good many have been taken, mostly with worm, they are said to be in good condition, but I think that very doubtful, as they have not done spawning yet. The main rivers, Rye and Derwent, are still rather high; but fining down nicely. The smaller tributaries are now in nice order. Whether the sulkiness of the fish to-day means another Yankee storm at hand or not will be proved in a day or two. I have repeatedly noticed that a storm has followed when fish have been sulky on apparently perfect fishing days.—NORTH EAST.

Ouse (Huntingdon).

The water is subsiding at present, and I anticipate that fishing will be resumed in the course of a week or ten days (weather permitting), and there will be no doubt but what the pike will feed very freely after this thick and unsettled water, and if the weather continues as favourable as it is now, it will be a good prospect for the remainder of the season.—H. ROUT, Keeper.

Ouse (Littleport).

Nothing worth reporting last week, as the water was out. This week, though the water has been in fair condition, very few have been out. Feb. 1st, tried myself for an hour, and got nine roach, going $4\frac{1}{2}$ lb.; Feb. 4th, Mr. H. B. Flack, Cambridge, 8 lb. good roach, largest 1 lb.; Feb. 5th, I thought I was doing the thing properly with 7 lb. in two hours, but felt snuffed out when Mr. J. George, Cambridge, weighed in 18 lb. fine roach taken in three and a quarter hours; Feb. 7th, tried myself for six y-five minutes and got 8 lb. good roach, very good sport. A gentleman fishing for an hour and ten minutes this afternoon got $4\frac{1}{2}$ lb. nice roach.—CHARLIE SOUTH.

Severn (Gloucester).

The river has been in a flooded state for the last week, and anglers have not been able to wet a line. The top of the tide was the 31st ult., so that, if the weather keeps fine for another week, we shall be able to make up for lost time, and may have fair sport among the roach and dace with some nicely-scoured brandlings or paste.—YE FAYRE CITY.

(Severn) Shrewsbury.

This week the river has been very high, and fishing has been quite impossible; it is now getting into fair condition again. Several anglers have been bottom fishing to-day, and fair sport has been obtained. I heard of a basket of fish been hawked about in the early part of the week which were represented as having been taken outside of the borough, but even this renders fishermen liable, as no licences have, I am informed, been issued yet. By next week I hope to have more to report.—SEVERN SALMON.

Taw and Tributaries (North Devon).

Trout fishing commenced on the 1st inst., but the snow water prevents any zealous fisherman trying to be out the first. Fish are plentiful, and no doubt the mild winter has given good feed, and will be found in good condition. Many salmon are gone back, also the gravelling (local name for young of ditto). I heard a day or two ago that a large quantity of fresh fish were seen leaping in the river. Salmon fishing with rod and line commences on April 1st.—RUSTY GAME.

Tay.

The salmon fishing on the River Tay and its tributaries opened on Tuesday last; but the water was in bad condition, being very heavy, and the takes were consequently not so good as was anticipated. At some of the stations the nets could not be wrought, and altogether the number of fish landed is not believed to be much more than a third of those captured on the opening day of last season. It is satisfactory, however, that the diseased fish, of which there were large numbers until recently, have almost wholly disappeared, and that the clean fish caught are in splendid condition. Several rods were out on the river, but in no case was anything caught. On Wednesday, Messrs. Davidson (of Ruchill) and Gilmour (of Eaglesham) fished from the Breadalbane Arms Hotel, Aberfeldy, on the Grantully water. Mr. Davidson had two salmon, 18 and 15 lb., and Mr. Gilmour one of about 16 lb. On the Grantully stream one salmon was caught by the keeper. On the Lyon, Sir Donald Currie's keeper caught a beautiful newly-run salmon of fully 21 lb. This is very unusual, as the Lyon fish do not generally ascend the river so early in the season.—J. MCG.

Teme (Ludlow).

The waters of the Teme are fast going down, and the river will soon resume its natural colour. All the tributaries are getting into angling condition, and are well clearing themselves. A few gentlemen have ventured to try their hands this week, but, on the whole, have met with indifferent success. On Tuesday, one gentleman went trout-fishing down the Teme, but did not catch a single fish. Another went visited the Ashford waters on Wednesday, and tried his hand below the bridge. He was fortunate enough to land several trout, but they were rather small; we should say they were not over $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. each, except one, which turned the scale at 1 lb. The Corve was tried on Tuesday, but the stream was too thick for any kind of fishing. We are glad to see that a fine was inflicted by the Herefordshire magistrates on Friday, in the case of taking unclean salmon from the Teme at Ludlow. A few more convictions, and the whole thing will be put a stop to. The weather promises to clear up and be fine, and sportsmen are looking out for good sport next week.—S. LUDLOW.

Teme (Tenbury).

The Teme in this part is still rather high and muddy, but it is going down gradually, and in a few days will be in good fishing order. The first trout we heard of, was taken by a gentleman on Wednesday, who landed a couple, one weighing $\frac{3}{4}$ lb., and the other 6 oz., both in prime condition. The same day, a very fine grayling about 1 lb., and another trout was taken. We are told that all the waters about this part are well stocked with trout this season, and anglers have but little difficulty in obtaining leave to fish if they make an application to the owners of these waters which are not belonging to the fishing association.—WORCESTER.

Trent (Newark).

The river has been in a state of flood most of the week; and nothing very particular has been done in the way of fishing. At the time of writing the water is going down very nicely, and will be in trim for worm fishing in the course of a day or two; that is if not too much snow broth in the river. Thursday night; water still very much coloured, but has been clearing down very nicely this last twenty-four hours; but I am afraid there is a lot of snow in the river; and not much sport can be expected till most of it has cleared away.—THE TRENT OTTER.

Trent (Nottingham).

In my last I mentioned that the Trent in this locality was running at a very great height and that a flood was inevitable. The assertion was realised; rain continued to fall heavily, and on Sunday and Monday the low-lying fields, contiguous to the river were submerged several feet. But in the evening of the latter day a subsidence set in, and the water receded almost as rapidly as it had risen. On Wednesday it was running well within the banks, and a few ardent souls were out at Wilford, meeting with roach by the use of the cockspur worm. Thursday witnessed a decided improvement in the colour, and again the Wilford length met with patronage. Before noon occasional roach

and dace were killed, but afterwards a disheartening fog set in, and all attempts to induce the fish to feed proved futile. Should no more rain fall, the river will be in condition for pike fishing on Monday at the latest.—THE MAN AT THE CLUBS.

Tweed and Teviot.

For fully a month past these rivers have been running in flood, and of course, very little angling has been practicable at all. At times, when the waters got down to about a couple of feet, the partisans of the rod and line were busy at the river side, bottom-fishing for trout, and in some few instances a good basket now and again has been got; but on the whole, generally speaking, success has not to any great degree recompensed the angler for his trouble. As for salmon fishing, which opened here on the 1st February, not a line has as yet been thrown across any of the "casts," the flooded state of the river rendering this impossible, and it is only to-day (Thursday), that the waters have cleared anything, and perhaps a few of the more ardent of our sportsmen may be on the "shallows," so as to have the credit of "first blood," but up to the time of despatching this (6.30 p.m.) I have heard of nothing that has been done. The prospects, however, are excellent, as many clean salmon have been seen going over the cauld, and the late heavy floods will have had the effect of completely clearing away all the dead and dying fish, as well as those affected with the fungoid disease.—MAXWHEEL, KELSO.

Waveney (Beccles).

The water is again beginning to assume its proper colour, and I expect it to be right by Sa urday next, so that anglers may again commence operations. Had the water been in good condition this week, some good catches would undoubtedly have been made, as weather has been exceptionally fine. Present prospect good, but wind rather unfavourable.—A WAVENEY ANGLER.

Wharfe (Yorkshire).

The rivers have continued in a state of flood since my last report, but to-day (Wednesday) they show signs of running in. The weather continues singularly mild for the time of year, I, therefore, fear that grayling fishing is now at an end until autumn comes again; but let us hope for some real good sport with the trout before then. An Otley angler informed me the other day that about ten days ago he saw trout rising well one afternoon at a small black fly that was very strong upon the water. At present everything points to a favourable trout season. I heartily endorse all Mr. Corry's remarks in last week's issue. There is not the least doubt in my mind that grayling devour immense quantities of both trout and salmon spawn.—FRANCIS M. WALLBRAN.

Wye and Derwent.

We had very large floods on both the Wye and Derwent on Saturday, from the heavy thunder rain which fell both up in the Peak and Woodlands. The cleach net party killed a lot of fish with their nets on Saturday night while the Derwent was in flood. The fish were killed chiefly about Matlock Bridge. Trout fishing commenced here on some parts of the Derwent last Monday according to the Freshwater Fisheries Act, and I am pleased to say that some really good baskets of the speckled beauties have been killed since Monday afternoon, although a good many grayling have been landed. Nearly every fish, both trout and grayling, has been landed with cockspur worms. One of our local hands got two brace of trout on Monday afternoon that weighed 3 lb., the fish being in splendid condition. Then on Tuesday the same angler got a basket of trout and grayling that weighed over 12 lb. the lot. To-day (Thursday) we have had another fall of rain; but not enough of it to disturb the rivers again. Trout fishing prospects are looking well for either worm or trolling for next week.—G. JAS. EATON.

Yare (Norwich).

This river at present does not seem to have afforded the pike fishermen their usual sport. I have enquired on all hands, but cannot gain encouraging information with regard to our public waters; in private broads and rivers some good luck has been met with. Two members of the Norwich Angling Club and myself were out last Monday, and were rewarded by catching sixteen fair sized jack, the largest about 7 or 8 lb., and the smallest 3 lb. This catch was exhibited at the club house on Monday evening, and elicited the hearty congratulations of the members present. Several of these fish were taken out of very fleet water, not more than 21 to 24 inches, and on being struck by the snap hook, they immediately sprang right out of the water, which gave the fortunate captor much excitement and pleasure. On Tuesday, another party succeeded in landing ten, all good fish, and the evidence of the week is that the fish are only waiting to be lured by a dace or roach to their doom. The East Anglian Piscatorial Society held their annual dinner last evening, under the presidency of M. Alderman Newman and Mr. E. Grimmer. The meeting was a thorough success, particulars of which I will forward next week. Prospects all round are good.—ROBERT MOLL.

Yore (Hawes).

I was sorry to see that Mr. Walbran put the misconception he did upon that part of my last contribution in which I said "Selfishness was the cause of the agitation against the admission of salmon to the head waters of the Yore." I had not the least intention of accusing Mr. Walbran of having the least suspicion of selfishness in his nature—but a certain clique below Aysgarth, who are afraid a few salmon will escape their clutches. Plenty of "cheese" comes from below Aysgarth. I am sorry I did not express myself sufficiently clearly in my last. In face of what Mr. Walbran says as to the destructive effect of salmon in trout streams, I cannot understand why our best local anglers continually go to below Aysgarth if they want a good day's sport. Only the other evening I asked the reason of one of the frequenters of the Yore, near to Burton, and he said, "I can kill more fish, and the fish are bigger." Why so many anglers who condemn salmon trout streams, and who are so anxious that salmon should not be admitted to the head waters of the Yore have gone, do go, and will go to find sport in that part of the river frequented by salmon is a riddle I must confess my incapacity to solve. I can find plenty of streams in this locality to the head waters of which it would be an impossibility to admit salmon, but this knowledge only makes me the more anxious that salmon should be allowed to ascend wherever practicable. I do not look upon our streams as being placed in our hands simply as a source of sport, but as a means of supplying us with food as well. Almost everything that comes under the hand of man is capable of development and improvement, and I hope the time is not far distant when the food-producing properties of our rivers will be encouraged to the utmost. With respect to the angling at Semmerwater Lake, in your editorial note of last week, you would have been quite right two years ago; but now Semmerwater is included in the preserves of the Askrigg Angling Association. Much has been done by that association to prevent the netting

(which was carried on at the head of the lake) of the lake by placing a large number of spiles, &c., in the bed of the lake and feeders. The foot of the lake is still free below the bridge. The tickets are, I believe, 10s. 6d. the season, and 2s. 6d. the day. Mr. John Skidmore, of Askrigg, will, I am sure, only be too happy to give any information required on receipt of stamped directed envelope. This gentleman is a noted angler and a practical fly dresser. He knows every hole and corner of the water; and I should say when he can be got hold of will be a valuable acquisition to any party visiting that part. The season commences on St. Valentine's Day. Winter has gone again, and we are enjoying most spring like weather. I am much disposed to think most sport will be had with the grayling if fly fishing is practicable during the early part of the season, as they are very numerous.—JOSEPH CORRY.

THE DON (ABERDEENSHIRE).

"The River Dee for fish and tree,
The River Don for corn and horn."—Old Rhyme.

RISING in the mountains west of Corgarff, and running in an easterly direction in the main, this river, after pursuing a sinuous and serpent like course of seventy-eight miles, through deep valleys, green meadows, and richly-cultivated fields, discharges itself into the German Ocean about a mile due north of the City of Aberdeen. Presenting us, as it does, with a variety of traits peculiar to itself, and of interest to anglers, it may not be unprofitable to review some of its leading characteristics. Long before its birthplace in the hills melts in shadowy distance, it begins to wind its way through a rich loamy soil, receiving here and there a tribute stream, until it finally disappears in the immensity of ocean.

Having but slight declivity after its confluence with the Ury at Inverurie, it moves along with slow and silent dignity, varied only by rippling streams, and ignoring the acquaintance of rapids and falls. From this point seaward it abounds in pools of great depth, the favourite habitat of pike and eels. Very rarely, except in that picturesque, hill-girt basin, the Vale of Alford, from whence our "prime Aberdeenshire" at Christmas comes, does the river pursue its way over rock and pebble. As a rule, it has either a sandy, clayey, or muddy bed. Owing to the richness of the soil through which it passes, the stream itself is alive with animaculæ while its banks and surroundings are infested with flies, and the land contiguous with the *vermis* variety of life. Hence it is we have no doubt that the Don trout are usually so well-conditioned. And that they are so, we can most solemnly vouch, for "plumper" trout we never had the cunning to allure from their pellucid haunts.

It is saying a good deal certainly, but it can be said with truth nevertheless, that the common yellow trout of the Don cannot be surpassed in quality and average size in the north and east of Scotland. Though we have many excellent trout streams in Aberdeenshire—the Deveron, Ythan, Ugie (North and South), Philorth, Cruden, Ebrrie and their tributaries—the Don deserves the premier position. Given a good day in April or May, even as early as the middle of March, sunshine and shade a fair volume of water, and a fine western breeze, a fairly skilful angler may calculate with a reasonable certainty on securing on any of the free or nominally free sections of the Don a basket of trout scaling from 20 lb. upwards, sometimes 40 lb., provided he uses the proper flies, fishes lightly, and strikes quickly.

From Inverurie to the sea, sixteen miles by road and twenty by river, the average width of the Don is from thirty-five to forty yards—just a fine width to be able to command fairly well from either bank. The back-hand cast, evidently "bequeathed from sire to son," is invariably practised on this section, little "switchings" being necessitated, owing to the nature of the banks and their comparative immunity from shrubs and over-hanging trees. From Dyce to Kintore, eight to fifteen miles from its mouth, the river runs very deep and slow, with little in the way of variation excepting the high clayey, spate-cut banks and green water-level meads that alternate along its course. This section is specially well-stocked with pike, large and small, of an average weight of about 4 lb. We have heard of some weighing over 20 lb. being caught, and it is no uncommon occurrence to bring to land ten and twelve pounders. Notwithstanding the inducement, eel and pike fishing in these parts has never obtained so much as a passing popularity. Even trout fishing, though certainly popular, is not prosecuted with so much zeal as the circumstances might warrant us to expect. It is well that little wading is required in connection with Don angling; the river is ill adapted in this respect. You go sheer down at once, plump, perhaps, over the head, if you have the temerity to venture in, for the depth at the side is usually about as great as in the centre of the stream. For the information of anglers unacquainted with the Don, and who may infer from our description that its water is of a peaty or light porter colour, we tender the assurance that on paying a visit to its banks and braes they will find a stream, "though deep, yet clear," and withal worthy of the attention for a short time of the best Waltonians of the day. Here in Scotland there is more freedom in the way of angling than (we can understand from the GAZETTE) anglers in England seemingly possess. For one thing, we have no Trespass Act, and in this respect are only amenable to the law when trespassing with "intent" to kill game or any of *Salmonidae* variety. Though we ourselves were never questioned, we have heard of an assumed right by proprietors to prohibit trout fishing on the Don having been exercised not infrequently. We will, however, give the accused the benefit of the doubt. It is just possible a good deal of the friction may have arisen in consequence of anglers having exceeded their rights. Anyhow, we esteem it better policy for all concerned to mutually acquit each other than to proclaim "guerre a outrance." In bidding adieu to this subject, we seek to direct your attention to another and far more important one—the best killing flies. When the weather is favourable trouting on the Don is usually good by the middle of March, and some really capital fellows are then got with the hare lug, March brown, partridge ruff, and cow dung flies.

With the advent of April the popularity of the March brown wanes, and the professor comes to the front. Well on towards the end of April and in May the black and red spiders, grey dun, and priest are the favourites. June and July bring into requisition the small midge and coachman, little blue dun, water cricket, and last, though not least, the "fail-me-never Kintore fly," the brandling worm. As the Don is pre-eminently a trouting stream in the earlier months of the season it has been our object to treat it chiefly as such on this occasion, and for sundry reasons which subsequent articles will show. In addition to completing this promise, we intend at some future time to speak of the Don as a salmon and sea-trout stream; describe specifically the lures most fatal at certain times, and in various conditions of the river; refer to the inference of locality on the weight and variety of trout; indicate where on easy terms salmon and trout fishing can be had; descant on hotel accommodation, &c., and give a few interspersory touches of nature, in the shape of scenery, with a view to enkindle some interest in the whole. W. M.

THE STEAM LAUNCH ACT AND ITS CHARGES.

It will now depend upon scullers and anglers whether the nuisance of reckless and dangerous steaming is to be continued on the Thames. All remonstrances, penalties, and the strongest denunciations of the entire press having proved abortive, now, after many years of suffering, the complaints of the general public have at length brought forth the desired and much required restrictions, and placed in the hands of the humblest individual, by a direct report of any infraction of the laws, the means of obtaining redress through the Board of Conservancy, which has pledged itself to take action provided there be sufficient evidence to obtain a conviction.

The following orders are now posted at Marsh Lock, and doubtless by the time this goes to press at all the lock houses on the Thames:

"Every steam vessel when approaching another vessel so as to involve risk of collision shall slacken her speed, and shall stop and reverse if necessary.

"If a sailing vessel and steam vessel are proceeding in such a direction as to involve risk of collision, the said steam vessel shall keep out of the way of the sailing vessel.

"When two steam vessels, proceeding in opposite directions, the one up and the other down the river, are approaching one another so as to involve risk of collision, they shall pass one another port side to port side.

"Steam vessels navigating against the stream shall ease, and, if necessary, stop, to allow vessels coming down with the stream to pass near.

"It is ordered that in all cases lock passes are to be screwed on the boats for which they are taken out in a conspicuous position, and not carried loose on a sliding piece of wood.

"Any person committing any breach of, or in any way infringing, any of these by-laws shall be liable to a penalty of and shall forfeit a sum not exceeding £5.

"PLEASURE BOAT TOLLS.

"Persons in charge of pleasure boats passing through, by, or over any of the locks on the River Thames shall pay to the lock-keepers or other persons authorised to receive tolls the sums contained in the following table:—

	s.	d.
"For every steam pleasure boat and passenger steamer..	1	6
"Class 1.—For every sculling boat, pair-oared row boat, and skiff, and for every randan, canoe, punt, and dingey ..	0	3
"Class 2.—For every four-oared row boat (other than the boats enumerated in Class 1) ..	0	6
"Class 3.—For every row boat, shallop, over four oars (other than the boats enumerated in Classes 1 and 2) ..	1	0
"Class 1.—Centre-board gigs, from 14 ft. to 22 ft., not exceeding 5 ft. beam .. per lock	0	3
Mersey and Nautilus canoes, 15 ft. to 20 ft., not exceeding 6 ft. beam .. per lock	0	3
"Class 2.—Cutters, sloops, Una boats fitted for sailing purposes ..	0	6
Centre board boats and canoes of greater dimensions than those mentioned in Class 1 ..	0	6
"For every house boat under 50 ft. in length ..	1	6
"For every house boat over 50 ft. in length ..	2	6
"The above charges to be for passing once through, by, or over a lock, and returning on the same day.		

"In lieu of the above tolls, pleasure steamers or row boats may be registered on the payment to the Conservators of the undermentioned sums, and shall, in consideration of such payment, pass the several locks, free of any other charge, from the 1st day of January to the 31st December in each year:—

	s.	d.
"For every steam pleasure boat and steam passenger boat, not exceeding 35 ft. in length ..	100	0
"Ditto, above 35 ft. in length, and not exceeding 45 ft. ..	150	0
"Ditto, exceeding 45 feet in length ..	200	0
"For every row boat of Class 1 ..	40	0
"For every row boat of Class 2 ..	50	0
"For every row boat of Class 3 ..	60	0
"For every house boat, not exceeding 30 ft. in length ..	60	0
"For every house boat, not exceeding 50 ft. in length ..	150	0
"In computing the tolls, every number of feet less than the entire numbers above stated to be charged as the entire number.		
"The plate with the registered number thereon to be fastened on to the boat for which it is issued, and is not transferable from one boat to another. All old plates must be returned."—CREEL.		

THE WESTMINSTER AQUARIUM.—We learn from Captain Hobson that the brace of trout caught recently by Mr. Sachs, and presented to the Royal Aquarium, are doing very well in one of the tanks.

HARPER'S NEW MONTHLY MAGAZINE FOR FEBRUARY.—The first paper in this present number of Harper's, published by Messrs. Sampson Low, Marston, and Co., has a peculiar attraction for us, and it will be eagerly seized upon by all lovers of the Thames, not alone for its descriptive matter, but the charming "bits" of the picturesque which serve to illustrate portions of that district from the "first lock" down to Henley. But as the text is condensed into less than a dozen pages, the appetite is excitedly whetted for more, which it is to be hoped will be satisfied by the future appearance of drafts upon the wealth of the banks between Henley and Windsor, if not Staines—all of which are of the upper Thames proper. The page-illustration of a "Wet Day's Punt Fishing" is clearly taken afloat, while the vignettes are perfect bijous of an art of which the proprietors have certainly given us here examples of its highest perfection.

CLUB AND OTHER JOTTINGS.

By L. B.

THERE was a very full attendance at the monthly meeting of the "United London Anglers' Central Committee," on Monday evening, the 4th inst.; Mr. S. Morgan presiding. After the reading and confirming of the minutes of the previous meeting the committee's recent decision not to contribute to the defence of angling rights on Heigham Sounds and Norfolk generally (which was fully reported in my notes in a recent number of the GAZETTE) was reconsidered, and a sum of £5 5s. eventually voted for this purpose.

The only other business of importance done was the consideration of the case of three anglers, members of London clubs, summoned for angling from the towing path in the river Ouse at St. Neot's, Huntingdon. From a statement by Mr. Wainwright, it appears that the matter has already been taken up by a number of well-known anglers and old established societies, and a fund raised for the defence of these piscators, who, it was contended, were exercising a public right. "Such attempts"—Mr. Wainwright went on—"are being made on all sides to deprive anglers of what they have considered their undoubted rights for years' that it behoves all those who have the interest of the sport at heart to make a stand against further encroachments. The three anglers summoned are quiet and orderly; no charge of doing any damage or anything of that kind is brought against them. The persons prosecuting, or instigating the prosecution, are actuated less by a desire to assert a private right than by a wish to impose their views of the observance of the Sabbath on others. I sincerely trust the committee will support this case, which it is probable will go against the anglers and in favour of those taking out the summonses (whose names, by the bye, are not known). Such cases before the local magistrates, who are mostly landed proprietors or clergymen, are generally so decided, as past experience proves; but I sincerely hope that unless the title in support of the private claims is very clearly proved, any adverse decision will be appealed against.

Mr. Ghurney having warmly supported the testing of this question, it was finally proposed by Mr. Manning, and seconded by Mr. Walker, that a sum of £5 5s. be contributed to the fund for defending this case, which was carried; Messrs. Bonvoisin, Field, and Theobald also saying a few words.

During the discussion of the question, Mr. R. Ghurney caused much merriment by the following slip of the tongue:—"My religion socially is very simple and comprised in the sentence, 'If you can't do a man any harm, don't do him any good,'" whereas, as he explained when the laughter had subsided, he meant quite the reverse.

Mr. Young, as auditor from this association to the Anglers' Benevolent, gave a most satisfactory account of the funds of the society, which has a good substantial balance in hand, and during the half year has made grants to necessitous and sick members of upwards of £50, and—but perhaps it will be better to await the printing and circulation of the balance-sheet, when I may have something more to say on the Anglers' Benevolent Society—its composition and progress.

Upon the roll being called by the secretary, the following societies were found to be represented—there being, besides, many visitors:—West Central Angling Club, Hoxton Brothers, Hearts of Oak, Dalton, Edmonton and Tottenham, Stepany, Isaac Walton, Gresham, Social Brothers, Great Northern, Little Independent, Good Intent, Cavendish, West Ham, Bow Bells, Stoke Newington, Original Alexandra, Alexandra, Eustonian, Alliance, Metropolitan, Amicable Brothers, Burdett, Phoenix. River Lea bailiffs—Messrs. Williams, High, Bayley, and Clarke. From the West Central Association—Messrs. Field, Copeland, Star, and Bonvoisin; the usual vote of thanks to the chair bringing the meeting to a close.

The usual monthly meeting of the West Central Association of London and Provincial Angling Societies will be held at the Portman Arms Tavern, Great Quebec Street, Baker Street, on Friday evening, February 15th. As this seems, owing to the 1st inst. falling on a Friday, to be very early in the month, the attention of club delegates is especially called to same.

I have both heard reports of and seen some very good roach coming from our Fisheries Association Water at Uxbridge, and the keeper who has the said stretch under his care is said to be very sharp, and locally known as an "awkward handful."

GRESHAM ANGLING SOCIETY.

THE ordinary weekly meeting of the above society was held at the Masons' Hall Tavern, Masons' Avenue, Basinghall Street, on Tuesday Evening, Dr. Brunton in the chair. There was a very large attendance of members and visitors. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, and some routine business disposed of. The feature of the evening was the reading of Mr. Crumplen's paper on "The Cause of the Recent Red Skies." The chairman, before introducing Mr. Crumplen to the meeting, said he should like to call the attention of the gentlemen present to the peculiar formation of the "Lophius Piscatorius," two very good specimens of which he had been able to procure on the previous day, and which he produced for their inspection. He reminded them that in the paper which he had the pleasure of reading before them on "The Sense of Vision in Fishes," he had pointed out that the eyes of fish, such as are usually angled for, have the peculiar arrangement that the iris is immovable, i.e., it does not contract or dilate under the action or absence of light; but in the "Lophius Piscatorius," which is not angled for, but on

the contrary, does its own angling, the pupil is oblong and very cat-like, and the iris has a definite power of dilatation and contraction, thereby to influence the amount of light which may enter the eye-ball. This special power doubtless enables the fish to angle either on a clear bottom, or among weeds, where the light is necessarily deficient through being shaded. There was no doubt that this peculiar power of dilatation and contraction was due to the action of the muscles which pull back the eye-ball, thereby producing an alteration in its shape in a manner not quite similar to that which occurs in the fishes which he spoke of in his paper; and also in addition to this the distending power of the choroid gland might have some influence in the same direction. Dr. Brunton also showed a Nottingham reel, an improvement of his own upon one exhibited in the Fisheries Exhibition, the object of which was to enable the line to be so wound up as to prevent entanglement in casting. Dr. Brunton then referred to the paper about to be read, which he said was certain to prove of great interest to anglers like themselves, to whom the question of light must always be of vast importance. He then called upon Mr. Crumplen to read his paper.

Mr. Crumplen, after expressing the pleasure it afforded him to have such a numerous audience, the sight of which was sufficient to dispel from his mind the idea which he could not help entertaining that his paper might be considered somewhat out of place in an angling society, remarked that the recent peculiar appearances of the sky had caused a great deal of inquiry. Three explanations had been suggested. The first was that it was due to ordinary atmospheric conditions, forerunning a very severe winter. The second, and more popular theory, and one urged by a great array of scientific men, ascribed it to volcanic dust in the atmosphere. He did not think either of these theories tenable. The red skies he observed were first observed early in September, and obtained their greatest brilliancy in October and November. The third theory, and the one to which he inclined, was that of the earth coming into contact with meteoric matter. These meteors, or shooting stars, revolve round the sun in the same orbits as the comets, and it might be they were actually thrown off from the comets. In illustration of the theory which he had adopted, Mr. Crumplen exhibited several excellently-prepared diagrams, tending to show that at the particular times of these red skies occurring our earth was in the orbit of one of the comets which these meteors accompany, and the dust of which might accompany our earth and produce the phenomenon under notice. Mr. Crumplen concluded by thanking his hearers for their truly piscatorial patience in listening to that which, though not essentially an angling paper, must, he felt certain, possess great interest to all those who took an interest in what was going on in this world of ours. In the discussion which followed, Mr. Crumplen was supported in his theory by Mr. Bentley, Mr. Lake, the Rev. J. Walker, and others. Mr. Parker could not agree with him—feeling inclined to ascribe the peculiar sunrises and sunsets to the fact that the vapours had met with warmer air than usual, and therefore had not been condensed. The Chairman, in supporting Mr. Crumplen's view, expressed the great pleasure he had experienced in listening to the paper. On the motion of the Rev. J. Walker, seconded by Mr. Bentom, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Crumplen, and the paper was ordered to be printed. This concluded the business of the evening; and, after the toast of "The Visitors" had been duly honoured and responded to by Messrs. Wheatstone, Wainwright, and Bromley, a hearty vote of thanks was passed to Dr. Brunton for his able services in the chair, the usual musical selections bringing a highly pleasant evening to a close. The Conversation is fixed for the 19th inst., and will commence at seven o'clock.

H.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

GILLETT'S SELF-COCKING FLOAT.

MR. GILLETT, the well-known fishing tackle manufacturer, of Fetter Lane, has brought out a very prettily-made self-cocking float, little doubt inspired by the recommendation of its usefulness by Mr. Greville Fennell in his "Book of the Roach," which, by the bye, is now re-issued at a cheaper cost than formerly.* Mr. Fennell, in calling attention to this float (page 7), after stating his many fruitless attempts to circumvent the shoals of roach in certain ponds, says:—"We then bethought us to imitate, as nearly as possible, the action of the slow-descending particles of loose ground bait thrown in to allure the fish, and instead of using a shotted line, which sank rapidly, and consequently unnaturally reaches the bottom long before the ground bait, we removed all the shot, and placing sufficient in the quill, we found we had achieved a success, as it permitted the bait to sink by its own gravity. The effect was immediate and decided. . . . This method is wonderfully destructive to dace when the house-fly is used." Mr. Gillett's float is weighted to allow of the addition of the line, hook, and bait, when it will be regulated to detect the finest bite. We have already been very successful with it in the mill tails amongst the dace, with a single gentle or red worm, and could not catch them by any of the ordinary means. Of course, when not desirable, the angler will be a good deal pestered with the bleak; but a little dry bran thrown on the surface of the water will get rid of them, as they will follow the floating stuff down stream until every morsel is gone.

CREEL.

[These new floats are very beautifully made by Mr. Gillett, and we can endorse "Creel's" remarks about their utility. They are made in several sizes; the weight is quicksilver, inclosed in the plugged end of a transparent "patent taper quill." The secret of the tackle of making this float has long been in the hands of Mr. Gillett.—ED.]

THE FRESHWATER SHRIMP (*Gammarus pulex*).

In general structure the freshwater shrimp bears some resemblance to the common sandhopper, to which, indeed, it is closely allied, and its movements in the water increase the similitude. Freshwater shrimps may be found plenti-

* Post-free, for 2s., from Sampson Low and Co., 188, Fleet Street, London.

fully in almost every streamlet or ditch, provided that the water be tolerably clear. They act much like the fish in their habit of keeping their heads up the stream, and in their general conduct look something like the fry of various fish. Sometimes they make their way up the stream by clinging to the stones and other objects that form the bed of the stream, making quick darts forward, and then holding tightly to a stone until they choose to make a second dash onwards. When they have gone up the stream as far as they think proper they loosen their hold and come drifting back again, sometimes rolling over and over, but generally contriving to keep their heads pointing up the stream. In fact, they appear to amuse themselves by this action, just as the goats amuse themselves by dancing up and down in the air.

The food of the freshwater shrimp is usually decaying animal matter, and it can be attracted by sinking a piece of half-putrid flesh in the water. When it is not engaged in active exertion, it retires to some little crevice at the side of the stream, whence, however, it keeps a careful watch so as to be able to dart out as soon as it sees anything eatable. When removed from the water the little creature is quite helpless, lying on its side, and merely spinning round and round in its struggles—a habit which has gained for it the title of freshwater shrimp.—From "The Fresh and Salt Water Aquarium," by the Rev. J. G. Wood, M.A.

GEORGE JAMES EATON, of Starch Lane, Matlock-Bath, Derbyshire, respectfully invited Noblemen and Gentlemen to try his standard FLIES for the present season. No flies sent or made up but what he himself has proved sure killers. A trial is all that is required from gentlemen who can fish, to prove whether they may be genuine or not. Patronised by some of the best fishermen of the day. All flies dressed on the best Keenel hooks. Prices Point Flies, 2s. 6d. per Dozen; Dropper Flies, 2s. per Dozen. Orders punctually attended to.—(ADVT.)

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Communications relating to the Literary Department, Fishing Tackle for Notice, Books for Review, &c., must be addressed to the Editor of the FISHING GAZETTE, No. 12, Fetter Lane, London, E.C.

Contributions are solicited, but the Editor will not undertake to return rejected MSS. unless accompanied with a stamped addressed envelope.

Correspondents are requested to write on one side of the paper only, and give their real names and addresses, not necessarily as signatures to their letters, but as a guarantee of good faith. Unless this rule be adhered to, no notice will be taken of such communications.

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N.B.—All Remittances must be sent, and all Cheques and Money Orders must be made payable to Messrs. SAMUELSON LOW, MARSTON, AND CO., the Proprietors.

The Fishing Gazette.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1884.

ENGLISH TROUT EGGS FOR AMERICA.

THE White Star steamer *Adriatic*, which left Liverpool on the 14th of February, took out 10,000 English trout eggs as a present from the English FISHING GAZETTE to the American Fish Culture Association. The eggs have been supplied by Mr. T. Andrews, of Guildford, and were taken from trout from the celebrated trout streams, Itchen and Wey, and from Mr. Andrews' own fine stock fish. Messrs. Ismay, Imrie, and Co. have taken considerable interest in the shipment, and have given instructions for their safe delivery; they also carry them freight free.

It will be remembered that the 600 Hampshire trout eggs sent out to Tasmania and New Zealand sixteen years ago have stocked the rivers of those countries with superb trout. We hope the present experiment may be as successful.

OUR EXCHANGE COLUMN.

AT the suggestion of several correspondents, we have decided to insert an "Exchange Column" in the GAZETTE. We think, from what we have seen of its working already, that it will prove very useful. Full particulars will be found under the heading "Exchange."

THE NATIONAL FISH CULTURE ASSOCIATION, re THE HEALTH EXHIBITION AND THE FRESH-WATER FISHERIES ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

A MOST important meeting of the council of this Association was held on Thursday at 12 o'clock, to consider and finally decide upon the answers received to proposals by them to the Council of the Health Exhibition, for undertaking the entire responsibility of the efficient maintenance of the whole of the salt and freshwater tanks of fish, as erected and stocked under the direction of, and exhibited by, the Executive of the Fisheries Exhibition.

The meeting was presided over by the Marquess of Exeter, supported by E. Birkbeck, Esq., M.P. The following amongst other members were present:—Messrs. T. J. Mann, R. B. Marston, P. Geen, J. Brunton, M.D., A. Jardine, C. Fryer, H. Ffennell, J. J. Manley, M.A., W. Senior, and Oldham Chambers.

The letters from the Council of the Health Exhibition having been read and considered, it was resolved that the terms therein offered be accepted, and that the thanks of the meeting be given to the Council of the Health Exhibition for acceding to the wishes of the National Fish Culture Association.

This arrangement will place the sole management of the aquarium in the hands of the council of the National Fish Culture Association, who will not only use every effort to make this portion of the Exhibition as attractive as possible, but will also avail themselves of this opportunity to make many interesting experiments in coarse-fish culture which have never as yet been attempted.

The following members were appointed as a sub-committee, to take charge of the aquarium from the 14th of February:—The Marquess of Exeter, E. Birkbeck, Esq., M.P., and Messrs. R. B. Marston, A. Jardine, P. Geen, Oldham Chambers, and T. J. Mann. Mr. Birkbeck and Mr. Jardine, in proposing and seconding Mr. Mann, bore testimony to his unceasing and invaluable efforts as chairman of the committee having charge of the aquarium during the Fisheries Exhibition.

The ordinary business of the council having been disposed of, Mr. Birkbeck called attention to the Freshwater Fisheries Amendment Bill, introduced by Mr. Hibbert, and which stood for second reading that day. He thought [that no Bill, no matter how simple and unimportant it may be, should be pushed through the House of Commons without giving those interested in and affected by it an opportunity of studying its contents. He did not think that there was a single angler in London or the provinces that had had an opportunity of seeing it, except Mr. Geen, who, he was pleased to hear, interviewed Mr. Hibbert yesterday. He hoped Mr. Geen would tell them what he thought of it. His own opinion was, that to limit the power of Boards of Conservators so that they could not compel the use of nets with a mesh larger than two inches, was very unwise, as in his county they had insisted on increasing the mesh to three and a half inches, and now they had abolished drag nets altogether. Mr. Geen said that until yesterday, when he saw Mr. Hibbert, he was quite in the dark as to what was proposed, and the object of his visit was first to learn the intentions of the Bill, and secondly, to endeavour to get the amendments desired by coarse-fish anglers included in it. He was clearly of opinion that the one clause of which the Bill consisted would be beneficial, were it not for the unwise limit of two inches as the maximum size of the mesh, and he felt so strongly on this point that he obtained what he considered was a pledge that it should be increased, so as to give more limit for the discretion of Conservators. He, Mr. Geen, thought they were much indebted to Mr. Birkbeck for bringing the subject before them, and felt sure that he, Mr. Birkbeck, would watch the course of the Bill, so as to ensure amendment on this point. He regretted to add that it would be impossible for the Bill to pass this session if his proposals were added, as the slightest opposition meant its defeat; but from the interview with Mr. Hibbert and afterwards with Professor Huxley, he was led to hope that next session would offer an opportunity to try for a Bill in the interests of coarse-fish anglers, and he was very pleased to say that he had found that both Mr. Hibbert and Professor Huxley took a great interest in the proposals he had submitted to them.

A vote of thanks to the Marquess of Exeter for presiding, brought the proceedings to a close; but we cannot leave this subject without congratulating the founders of the National Fish Culture Association on the start for useful work which the Association has now made.

POACHING NEAR ENFIELD.

ALLEGED UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF FRESH WATER FISH.

At the Edmonton Petty Sessions yesterday, before M. Latham, Esq. (chairman), and J. Howard, Esq., John Radford, 38, of Gordon Cottage, Northaw Road, Upper Clapton, Thomas Saunders, 32, of 5, Gammel Road, Boundary Road, Walthamstow, and Frederick Hern, 28, of 4, Orchard Hill, Upper Clapton, labourers, were charged with having had in their possession a large quantity of live and dead fresh water fish, and not giving a satisfactory account of the same, at Baker Street, Enfield.—The evidence showed that at a late hour on the previous night police-constable King saw the prisoners carrying a heavily laden sack, a basket and a bag. He watched prisoners for some time, and eventually found that the sack and basket were full of live and dead fresh water fish; weighing in all 140 lb., and including 40 lb. of jack, the largest of which weighed 15 lb. Two large nets were found in the bag which the prisoners were carrying.—On the application of Inspector Head the prisoners were remanded.—The fish found in the possession of the prisoners included jack, roach, perch, and chub.

[We trust these rascals will come in contact with a caloric magistrate; in other words, will "get it hot," as an old subscriber puts it, who sends the above from the *Tottenham Herald*.—ED.]

NETTING AND ANGLING IN THE SEVERN AT SHREWSBURY.—The anglers of Shrewsbury, in connection with the Corporation of that town, are making an effort to reserve that portion of the river which surrounds the town—a length of a dozen miles—for anglers, and prohibiting all netting and night lines; and have before Parliament a Bill giving the Corporation special power over that portion of the Severn. Having waited on the Severn Fishery Board by deputation, the Board have declined to support the Bill, on the ground that it would establish a separate board (in the Corporation) in their own district; but they expressed their willingness to move the adoption of a series of by-laws which would have pretty well the same effect. They were to prohibit all fishing for salmon and trout, except for rod and line, from September 1 to June 15; no nets to be used at all in the annual close season—September 1 to February 1—in the borough of Shrewsbury. The licence duty for nets for trout in the borough to be raised to £5 and for night lines to £3, instead of £1 and 5s. as at present. The by-laws were adopted after a short discussion.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

C. (Winchester).—The pike-scale flies were invented by Mr. McNee, of Bohally, Pitlochry, N.B. He has patented his invention for preparing the scales, and flies made with unprepared scales are a delusion and a snare. The only genuine pike-scale flies are made by Mr. McNee.

P.—Of course it would be "off."

MARCH BROWN.—You will find one or two advertisements of vacancies for fishing on trout streams in our advertisement columns. There is one near Shrewsbury, which would be your nearest point. As the title-page is missing, we cannot give you the information you require. If you like to send the copy, we will try and help you. There have been some *fac-simile* reprints, which are not of much value.

G. S. S.—Index is nearly ready; we hope to print it next week.

ROACHER.—Roach are to be found in all parts of the New River. Ground baiting is prohibited, and properly so, in water destined for drinking purposes; but a little chewed bread will not hurt. The Nottingham style would be best if the water is very clear. You can get the back numbers of the GAZETTE at the office, 12 and 13, Fetter Lane.

A. LYOOD, Manchester.—Do not come near London to get free trout fishing. Winchester is the nearest place where you can get trout fishing by payment, except at the Red Lion, at Farmingham.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

MR. KELSON'S ARTICLES.

SIR,—Sketch No. 1, of Mr. Kelson, rod in hand, is clever enough, but I cannot quite understand the rest of the plate, for there is no F G at the end of the "diametral line" in the turn, nor any E. Would Mr. K. say which way the rod works, as there is no perspective in the drawing, and is the arrow underviewed, or is it intended to be overviewed in the elliptical sweep?

I think Mr. K. should tell us also more as to the requirement of rod and line, and how he first got his line out, supposing the rocks so high behind him. Did he float it down stream first, or how? When he is (and he will oblige by doing so) answering these queries, he might say when his standard colours will be brought out, and how will they affect the standard patterns of salmon flies; also where can a list of Mr. Kelson's patterns be seen? If ever in print can they be bought? I am an old fisherman, always glad to get a wrinkle or give one; and many of my happiest friendships have been made by the river side. How frequently the exchange of flies leads to an exchange of views. There is a freemasonry amongst fishermen.—I am, &c.,

HERON'S HACKLE.

P.S.—What weight in pounds should the best salmon gut lift dry, ditto wet?

[Mr. Kelson requests us to state—

(1) The F is defaced, but intended to be at the end of the diametral line by the letter D, and the G being by the arrow. The E (omitted) should be at the extremity of the dotted line A B C D (and intended) E.

(2) The arrow-head is overviewed, because the line at the point C crosses the rod this, *not the other side*, as will be seen in the Fig., and this is further explained by the directions in the paragraph relative thereto on page 4 in brackets, "the point C is the outmost point to the right." It cannot be underviewed as the line at the point C would be then represented behind the rod.

(3) "Should the angler find his pool inconveniently congested" (first paragraph page 4). The swish, as directed in this paragraph, is used where the angler cannot get above the catch to "commence operations." The Flip cast, however, will obviate all difficulties. (Fig. A and B refer to No. 2 illustration.)

(4) The standard colours will be ready in a very few weeks. Mr. Kelson cannot undertake to submit the samples to every gentleman or every establishment, but many opinions of approval from both have been acknowledged in writing, and also from many of the leading firms. Mr. Kelson solicits any remarks upon the subject from those with whom he is unacquainted. This gentleman possesses many of the original standard patterns, and they will be undressed when determining the correct shades, which will accord with his named standard colours, and published in a series of articles, with opinions where, when, and what size should be used. Mr. Kelson's private patterns for all rivers are only used by his friends. Some of the London firms make a few of them.—ED.]

MR. KELSON ON SALMON FISHING.

SIR,—As my former letter arrived too late no doubt for publication, will you kindly add this to it. Might I ask Mr. Kelson why the rod of Aldred's is only 15 feet 10 inches? Also where his "gloworm" can be purchased? And where I can obtain the flies for flipping, properly weighed, as described by him? I have never used the "Flip" cast, and have no doubt on some rivers it is very useful, but requires great care, or you will soon find yourself "up a tree."—I am, &c.,

HERON'S HACKLE.

Mr. Kelson's reply:—

A small rod when flipping from a wood is handy; so is a small gun when rabbiting in a copse. I have flipped in very close quarters with Mr. Aldred's three-piece cane rod, and believe it to be as serviceable as an 18 feet greenheart. I am not sure whether this model would bear lengthening. Cane rods properly made are more rapid in return than others of wood.

The "gloworm" is very fairly made at 258, Oxford Street. *Steadfast* is the watchword. And not "great care," but rather, correct aim, to avoid the arboreal accident.—GEO. M. KELSON.

MR. KELSON'S ARTICLES.

SIR,—I see that Mr. Kelson is willing to explain points that may not be understood, and with reference to the switch cast I should much like to inquire upon two or three matters of detail.

(1) Is the "twitch" made pointing towards the "floating line," or is it made in the direction of the new cast?

(2) It is said that the "floating line" should weathercock towards the "diametral mark." This latter, being the long diameter of the elliptical sweep, must point across the river while the line is floating in the direction of the current. It is not intended, I suppose, that the floating line should be in the same alignment as the "diametral mark," but that it should point towards the "mark."

(3) The "brief" states the sweep should be made from right to left.

Assume that the fisherman was on the opposite bank of the river to that depicted in No. 1, the fly would be below his left shoulder. Should not, then, the sweep be made in that case from left to right?

To understand a cast from written description, however carefully prepared, is difficult in comparison with seeing it done, and this must be my excuse for the inquiries. May I also ask if all makers recognise the numbering of salmon lines given by Mr. Kelson; and, finally, is a Castleconnell rod unsuitable for Mr. K.'s cast?—I am, &c.,

BRUCE SETON.

[We sent Major Bruce Seton's letter on to Mr. Kelson, and that gentleman kindly replies as follows:—

In reply to 1, 2—

The "twitch" is made pointing towards the floating line.

In the analysis of the brief, I said it was absolutely necessary that the floating line should weathercock to the imaginary diametral mark, F to G (the F being behind the G). In the same paragraph, on that account, I explained why the fisherman should be an ambidexter. And, also, with No. 3 question, I said:—Fig. C represents the turn being made right-handed only.

In the following paragraph I endeavoured to point out that the rod, although in the wrong hand in No. 1 for that side of the river, it had been whisked there, owing to the extremely disrespectful back eddy shifting the floating line.

Left-handed, Fig. 2 would be made—From left, overhead, to right.

The numbering of lines varies as the numbering of hooks, which, for salmon fishing, I am deciding with the standard colours.

A Castleconnell rod is better than a stiff one for this switch, but is not entirely suitable.

THE ROD POACHING AND SALE OF SALMON "PARR" ON THE RIVERS WYE, USK, AND LUGG, IN THE WEST OF ENGLAND, AND ON THE TOWY AND TAFF, IN SOUTH WALES.

SIR,—Your correspondent "Laxoring," writing in your issue of 26th Jan. under the above heading, is rather sweeping in his charges, and very quick in hoping that hotel proprietors, and fishmongers in Hereford, and several other towns which he names, may be prosecuted. But what for? Before rushing into print with such gusto as he has done, he should first be very careful that the information he receives should really be authentic in all instances.

I can challenge "Laxoring" or anyone else to prove that any salmon "parr" has been bought, sold, or offered for sale by me or anyone in my establishment, and I can safely answer for my fellow tradesmen that none have been exposed for sale by them in Hereford.

"Laxoring" says, "Last season about one trout was cooked in this city for every hundred 'parr.'" As he seems to quote figures definitely, shall I ask him, Was this at his own house? "Laxoring" not having been asked for his license on the Wye during last season may be accounted for by the fact that no water bailiff had the pleasure of seeing him fishing, or if they had, and taken the trouble to look in his creel, they would doubtless have found nothing, and been afraid to ask if anything was in his pockets for fear of receiving a "ducking" in the river. Respecting the grayling, I did not have a single fish the whole of last season in my shop under a pound weight. "Laxoring" says his license was taken from a "Mr. Stevens." I would point out to him that no such person named has any licenses for issue in Hereford for fishing in the Wye.

The whole of "Laxoring's" correspondence appears to me to be as true as what I heard lately, of a gentleman having with a rod and line "taken three clean salmon at the tail of Rotherwas stream one afternoon during last season." I should not have taken any notice of this anonymous letter if your remarks had not appeared in the footnote, which concurred in "Laxoring's" statement without apparently satisfying yourself that such was really the case.

It would be a surer guarantee of facts if "Laxoring" had appended his full name and address instead of resorting to a *nom de plume*.—I am, &c.,

HENRY A. FLETCHER.

January 31st.

Fishmonger and Game Dealer, Hereford.

[The above letter from Mr. Fletcher has been submitted to our correspondent, "Laxoring," and he replies as follows:—

"SIR,—In answer to you, not to 'Irate Fishmonger,' I saw, myself, in company with an angling friend, grayling for sale on slab of two fishmongers—eight in one shop, five in another. Day, 17th last April; hour, 2 p.m.; when passing through to fish in South Wales. We asked price in one shop. Answer—8d. per lb. We both suggested 'Grayling were then out of season.' Person in shop answered—'Not here.' I inclose you names of those resident gentlemen, who, on our return a week after, told us 'grayling' and 'parr' were being hawked about the city in the evenings. I believe there are four fishmongers in Hereford. We saw 'two' out of the 'four' with 'grayling' for sale, as above, and we are prepared to stand by what we saw, and ignore 'Irate Fishmonger.'"

"LAXORING."

"London, Feb. 5."

Mr. Fletcher was not specially referred to by "Laxoring," and we are very glad to find he is so indignant at the bare idea of being included among those who sell parr or grayling when out of season. We are quite satisfied with the statements made by "Laxoring," and no one has accused Mr. Fletcher. "Laxoring's" letter to us has been quoted in the Herefordshire papers, and called forth similar testimony in the shape of letters from other anglers who know his statements to be true.—ED.]

FISH POACHING IN THE WYE DISTRICT, &c.

SIR,—I note in your valuable paper of last week "Laxoring's" letter on fish poaching in the Wye, &c. I have known Hereford for some considerable period, but have never seen "parr" offered for sale in a shop publicly. That they are to be obtained by any one who wishes to do so, there is no doubt; but as long as gentlemen will purchase, and then adjudicate upon the cases brought before them, with a fine of 6d. and costs, so long will persons be found willing to risk the catching of them. To give some idea of the way it is done, I will relate a little anecdote which occurred to myself. A well-known man on the river, and a good rifle shot well known in the city, came to me one day and said, "Master, do 'ee want any minnies, 'cos now I can get 'ee some, you see?" He continued, "genelmen be allus asking for minnies, so I ordered a little net, and thought I might get some." Inquiring what sort of a net it was, I was informed it was "a beautiful little trammel, about thirty yards long, six feet deep, and minnie mesh." And to my disgust, on going to fish a favourite stream, I saw in broad daylight the net hanging up along some willow trees, and a couple of men engaged in picking out the weeds and sticks. I am, however, pleased to say that Mr. Stephens, the lessee of the water, has during the past season taken energetic measures by staking the whole of the streams, which will, to a certain extent, stop the netting, and, whatever the fate of the

coarse fish may have been, I must give him credit for the increased stock of trout and grayling in the river, due mainly to the fact that his men all have strict orders to return those fish into the river. With regard to the grayling, I am extremely sorry that only too many so called sportsmen take this beautiful fish out of the Wye during the spawning season; but "Laxoring" must have been very fortunate to have taken grayling with the salmon fly. I never heard of any one else doing so; perhaps he is like another gentleman I heard of who killed eight in one day, some 3 lb. each, with a Devon minnow, while spinning for salmon. Can nothing be done for this beautiful fish? At present it is entirely at the mercy of every one; there is no close season for it and one is told it is impossible to legislate for it.—I am, &c.,

QUILL GNAT.

Hereford.
P.S.—During ten years' salmon fishing on the Wye I have never been asked for my license.

SALMON IN THE UPPER REACHES OF THE YORE AND SWALE.

SIR,—I should have noticed Mr. Corry's notes of a fortnight ago, but have been so busy. However, with the opinion of such a man as Mr. Cummins, and the remarks of my friend, Mr. Walbran, there remains but little for me to say. But as silence looks like surrender, I must have my shot. Both Mr. Walbran and myself have nailed our colours to the mast, and we shall not take them down.

Mr. Corry deserves the thanks of all good anglers for the manly way in which he has reported the misdoings of poachers and the dealers in "Wensleydale Cheese" (in other words, salmon roe); but it is just possible that he is anxious to catch his first salmon. Having fished salmon rivers in various parts of the kingdom, and withal killed a goodly number of these lordly fishes, my experience, so far as England is generally concerned, is that their presence ruins spring trout-fishing, and impoverishes it for the rest of the year.

Here is a case in point. The Tuny and Camel, two Cornish rivers, rise in the same mountains, and within a mile or two of each other; the former is free from salmon, the latter has them. Now, how do these rivers compare? In the Camel all through the spring the smelts race in shoals at the flies, so that for one trout the angler catches ten of them, and the trout are wee, diminutive things that take on an average six or eight to the pound; and no wonder, for no sooner does any food alight on the water than the smelts have it, and that at a time when it is most needed by the trout. The Tuny, on the contrary, is much fuller of trout, and they are more than double the size of the Camel fish; in fact, on good days I have sometimes caught them averaging $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. each, and amongst them a few of 1 lb., but all invariably in good condition. And what do Camel fishermen get in return? Simply a month of very doubtful salmon fishing, for anglers must put up their rods before the fish have well arrived, and not take them down again until they have gone away. It is all very well in many of the rivers of Scotland and Ireland, where the fish run up twice a year; but so far as the upper reaches of the Yore and Swale are concerned, it would be Cornwall over again.

Like Mr. Walbran, I have now no personal interest in these rivers, but the days of Auld Lang Syne are so sweet to my mind that anything which touches these sister rivers touches me. The work of cutting through the three forces at Aysgarth, and the falls at Richmond, would be such a gigantic undertaking that three figures would hardly meet the cost, so the worst wish I have for Mr. Corry is that his head may not ache until the work is done. I shall not pity him if he has it afterwards if he helps to promote the scheme.

Furthermore, has Mr. Corry considered that if the obstacles were broken down the salmon would probably have to be shown the new way?—for it has been pretty well established that these fish generally return to their natal streams. This would involve the expense of a hatchery or the turning in of fry.

But Mr. Corry may say, "Would you exclude salmon altogether, if possible?" By no means; but where Nature has erected such well-nigh impassable barriers I should say, "Leave well alone." Depend upon it there is wisdom in the arrangement, and he who cannot be satisfied with such sport as the Yore and Swale naturally afford without attempting to mend it in what I may call an illegitimate way deserves to suffer the penalties his misdeeds would produce, if he could only have them without entailing them upon his fellows.

I would dwell on the matter at greater length; but time and space forbid.—I am, &c.,

THOMAS FORD.

Manor Fishery, Caister, Feb. 6.

MR. ANDREWS, OF GUILDFORD.

SIR,—I confess I was much gratified at reading in your issue of the 9th inst. the article upon the splendid work being done in the way of fish culture by Mr. Thomas Andrews, of Westgate House, Guildford.

None but those who have enjoyed Mr. Andrews' friendship for some years have any idea how much we fishermen owe him, or the vast amount of gratuitous labour he has devoted to our service.

Year after year he was in the habit of distributing tens of thousands of young trout for many miles round Guildford and elsewhere, and streams which have been barren of trout beyond the memory of the oldest inhabitant were found in due time to have become mysteriously prolific. And this was all done at his own cost—and, as he would have told you, "for amusement." Why, the county of Surrey alone owes him such a debt as it can never repay.

The time came, however, when Mr. Andrews (several hundreds of pounds out of pocket) was induced to regard this amusement of fish breeding from a commercial point of view, and I am delighted to learn of the success which has since attended him. May it continue and increase! May his shadow never grow less, though I have seen it loom very large before now as he has returned with a full bag.

There is no man living to whom trout fishers owe more than to Mr. Andrews, and I tender my thanks to you for the justice you have done him in your admirable article.—I am, &c.,

G. H. H.

THE LONDON ANGLERS AND THE MEDWAY.

SIR,—I have just had my attention called to the few lines at the end of the club report of "The United Brothers," Deptford, in your issue of last Saturday week, anent our water bailiff.

The inference, if I can understand at all, is that "the poor old gentleman" was not respectably attired. This I deny, though possibly his clothes were not of the superb cut of the writer.

Of one thing, however, I am certain: that his actions are quite as respectable. Only a few weeks since, two of the members of the United Brothers were caught fishing where they had no business, one being led away by the other. The man who knew better was proceeded against and fined, but he states that it was no punishment, as the club in question paid both the fine and costs.

I was always under the impression that the London clubs only countenanced fair fishing, and expelled people who wilfully broke the law by fishing where they perfectly knew they had no right.

Of course, if the Londoners who now come down and fish, in the majority of cases, without paying a penny towards the preservation of the Medway, are going for their club friends to pay for those who deliberately set the law at defiance, they may find the river once and for all closed against them.

You must admit, sir, such a proceeding is rather too bad.—I am, &c.,

EDWIN HOLLOWAY,

Hon. Sec. Tunbridge Angling Club and Fish Preservation Society.

[What have the Deptford Brothers to say to this?—ED.]

SALMON IN TROUT STREAMS.

SIR,—I see from Mr. Corry's remarks, which have been endorsed by "Watchet," that he considers salmon to be a great acquisition in trout streams, and that he further says they (the salmon) provide quantities of food in winter for the trout. Now, I should like him to explain how it is that in Hawes Association water, and in the Wensleydale Association water, which run from the source of the river to Aysgarth Falls, an average angler on an average day will generally get several trout from $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. to 2 lb., and sometimes up to 3 lb. in weight; and the same fisherman may go on a similar day to the reach of water from Aysgarth Falls to Redmire Falls, or to the commencement of Lord Bolton's private water—a distance of about four miles of as fine a reach of water as there is on the Yore, and preserved, too, and where the salmon come in hundreds in autumn—and he will very rarely catch one over $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. At the same time, they are not to be compared with the trout above, either in quality or flavour.

Mr. Corry's theory hardly holds good, so far as my experience goes, on that reach of water.

Mr. Corry also says that trout and grayling feed voraciously on each other's spawn. Now the trout in the Hawes and Wensleydale Association waters go up the small becks and rivulets to spawn, and I would ask Mr. Corry if he ever saw a grayling following the spawning trout in these small becks, which they naturally would do if they are such voracious feeders on trout spawn? I have never seen one, though I have observed them every year for now over thirty years; and, in the same way, I have never seen a trout lying behind a spawning grayling, though I have seen thirty or forty grayling on one scour spawning.

When spawn-fishing was not considered illegal, it was very extensively used in these parts, but I never knew a man who ever caught a grayling with spawn. When a lad I often put the question, whether grayling would take spawn, to old men who had been spawn-fishers all their lives, and they always said they never got one; and this bears out what Dr. Brunton said in his paper noticed in last week's GAZETTE; nor do I think trout will eat grayling spawn, for I have known it cured by first-class curers and fishers, but never knew a fish caught with it. I believe trout will feed on no spawn but either trout or salmon spawn; they will not touch scurf spawn.

We think about here that the Fishery Board will hardly go to the expense of making passes at Aysgarth Falls, for, as the Right Hon. Lord Bolton once remarked, "A good many would go up, but very few come back,"—alluding to the poaching fraternity.

If they could put a pass at Linton Locks it would help to let the salmon up much easier. It will be a great boon to the anglers in the Wensleydale and Swaledale waters if they enforce the net license. There are nets in use in these parts that are far more destructive than the cowl, or, more properly, "flood" nets. These can only be used when there is a flood; but one that is called the shackle net is the most destructive net used. A clever poacher can kill more fish with it than with any other net; they use it in the stream, and all the places where the fish feed.

I may mention that a year since last spring dead grayling could be seen lying all over the river below Aysgarth Falls, killed by a disease exactly similar to the salmon fungus. The anglers went so far as to say it was the same, and the salmon had infected the grayling. If such was the case, the introduction of salmon into our trout and grayling streams might not prove such an unmixed blessing as Mr. Corry would make out.—I am, &c.,

Askrigg, Jan. 30.

JNO. SKIDMORE.

[This very sensible letter deserves careful attention.—ED.]

THE NIGHT FISHING CONTROVERSY.

SIR,—I hope you may find room for this short letter.

The disingenuous, if not dishonest, reflections of I. C. U. upon the "Night Fishing" correspondence and his factitious vaunting of success in disparaging the conduct and result of the controversy, though some may be deluded thereby, merit only ridicule and contempt.

I as the Hon. Sec., and Mr. Greville Fennell as a Member of the Committee of the Henley Association, often meet, and I find him an agreeable gossip and co-adjutor. I had, however, only twice or thrice met him before he came to reside here. As I. C. U., has most unjustifiably connected our names, what wonder that "We" have conversed on that circumstance?

Mr. Greville Fennell is entirely clear from any connection whatever with the letters I have written to you, either by dictation, suggestion, or advice, nor do I know how far he is in accord with them. I do not require assistance in expressing or sustaining any opinions, and I now explicitly and without any reservation wholly deny that he has had anything to do with them.

My interpretation of the By Law is entirely unassailed by argument, and I am contented to leave it where it is, quite indifferent to having the last word with an antagonist who betakes himself to the dissemination of anonymous misrepresentation.

I am bound to recognise and acknowledge your practical impartiality as to the large space you have afforded me, and as I conceive I have established my contention, I desire no longer to keep up an exhausted disputation, nor to strive to obtain admissions that from other considerations it would be reasonable to expect.—I am, &c.,

JOHN WM. KNIGHT.

Henley, Feb. 11, 1884.

WATERPROOFING LINES.

SIR,—In answer to your correspondent in a recent issue (which I regret not to have replied to before), the dressing would be applicable to a line in which hair formed a part; hair itself is waterproof, but, as we all know, gets supple by immersion in water. I think greater care should be used in preparing a line in which hair forms a part, not to have the composition very hot, nor to put too great a strain on it when passing it through a gauge to remove the superfluous composition.—I am, &c.,

HENRY HOWSE.

2, Comberton Road, Upper Clapton, E.

FLIES FOR THE WHARFE AND YORE, &c.

SIR,—In reply to your correspondent from Bolton respecting the flies suitable for the above-named rivers, he will find that the list of flies that I gave recently in your columns will answer well for either river; but, as you are fully aware, to insure success they must be dressed on the very finest-drawn gut or single hair, and as small as possible. The clubs at Kilnsey and Burnsall issue day tickets at 5s. each, but only during the trout season. After September until the commencement of the season members only are allowed to fish. This rule applies only to the Burnsall Club, as there are no grayling at Kilnsey. I can assure your correspondent that if he can only contrive to come when there is a favourable water and day, he will find it worth his while to pay the price charged, as better water could not be found. I have heard of thirty brace of trout being killed in one day on the Kilnsey length.

At Bolton Bridge the fishing is free to anglers staying at the Devonshire Arms, but the fish run smaller here than above; then again, as you stated last week in your footnote, tickets are issued on the Ilkley length at 2s. 6d. per day. Below this point the river is strictly preserved by the Outley Club, who do not issue day tickets. On the Yore, Hawes, Cover Bridge, Tanfield, or Ripon are the best stations. Should your correspondent require further information, I shall be glad to afford him it if he will write me a private letter—I am, &c.,

FRANCIS M. WALBRAN.

Pool, Wharfedale, via Leeds.

A NEW WATER PROOFING FOR LINES.

SIR,—Inclosed is a piece of jack line prepared by a completely new process by Mr. W. Day, of 52, Richford Street, Shepherd's Bush, my fisherman. Will you kindly give your opinion upon it in the "F. G."?—I am, &c.,

JNO. GREVILLE FENNELL.

Henley-on-Thames, 29th Jan.

[It is one of the best we have ever seen—smooth, tenacious, and not brittle, or sticky.—ED.]

FISHING IN HIGHER WHARFEDALE.

SIR,—Your correspondent, "Bolton," must look to Skipton Station, and either stay overnight or arrive early.

Bolton Woods are the nearest fishing-grounds. By staying at the Red Lion or the Devonshire he can fish free of charge. There are plenty of trout, but they run small. Spring-fishing is the best, as the length is skirted with trees, and the river winds a good deal. The result is, feed is generally on, where in more exposed districts it is not so be found. From Barden Bridge to Linton, some eight miles on either side of the river, is in the hands of the Burnsall and Appletrewick Angling Club, one of the grandest lengths in the kingdom, day tickets, 5s. each.

We then have the Grassington length, a shorter length, but full of good fish; day tickets, 1s. each.

Above this length is the Kilnsey Club tickets, 5s. per day (conditional on the number of members out). Still higher up the dale we have Arncliffe beck, as they call it—in all some six or seven miles free fishing to anyone staying at the Falcon (a real fisherman's home, first-class accommodation, and very reasonable charges). Unless the weather is broken it is useless going there, but in rainy weather it is good fishing—any quantity of trout, and fine ones, too.

Arncliffe is a bonny village, with its village green surrounded with lofty and wild hills, in the heart of the grandest scenery—a lovely spot. I was surprised to find in the visitors' book the names of a London family, and felt somewhat inquisitive how in the world they had found out such a lovely spot. All I have to say is, sport or no sport, a real lover of nature will never begrudge a visit to Arncliffe, the fishermen's home.

The mail leaves Skipton every morning at seven, running into the country some twenty-four miles, and returning the same day. There are villages in the dales seventeen miles away from the nearest station.

In case "Bolton" wants any more information in reference to district or flies, I shall have much pleasure in giving every information I can.—I am, &c.,

WINTER BLACK.

PRIVATE WATERS.

SIR,—Our friend, the hon. sec. of the Henley Association, has got excited—selfish men who try to wear a mask of would-be benevolence and find it torn off often do get put out. The public may well be astonished when they find that privileges they have long enjoyed are suddenly stopped, and that the law which they have always had an idea was the embodiment of justice, was simply a contrivance of the rich and powerful to artfully filch, under pretence of law, the undoubted rights of the public.

Morally, the case stands thus:—The right of the people to fish in any river or naturally-formed lake, subject only to such regulations as to size of fish to be taken and close season as should prevent the entire extinction of the inhabitants of the waters, cannot be questioned on the score of justice. The assumption of private rights on such waters is a felony on the public. So much for the question in the abstract. Now, is there any foundation in law, even as it now stands, for these assumptions of private rights in fisheries? In but very few instances, in my opinion. I question whether a riparian owner, unless he can produce a grant from the Crown, either to himself or his predecessors, in title of the rights of fishery in any river, can claim any such right, notwithstanding that his deeds may recite that the fishery rights are included in his purchase; for it may astonish many of your readers to know that absolute individual rights of property are unknown to the law of England. There is but one freeholder in the kingdom; that is at the present time her most gracious Majesty the Queen.

This question is a branch of the great land question that is at the present time agitating men's minds more than any other, and, in a greater degree, than it has ever done in the history of this country. As a man interested in the maintenance of private rights, I wish to see them upheld with reason and good feeling, lest they be swept away altogether. The time has gone by for entirely ignoring the rights of the public.

But, *revenons à nos moutons*. In a previous letter I have shown that there need be no difficulty in any association granting season tickets to any person who chose to apply for them. If they made it a *sine qua non* that the applicant should be a member of an angling club, they would have a better hold of him as to his good behaviour. Further, if our Henley and Reading friends object to Sunday fishing—much as I should regret it in the interests of the London working-class anglers—I always feel bound to respect all conscientious scruples; they could certainly grant season tickets, but Sunday fishing prohibited. We shall see whether their wish to act as public benefactors is real, or whether

a simple determination to stick to what the law allows them, with excuses to cover their selfishness, if possible, but otherwise to brazen the matter out.

Mr. Knight has grossly libelled London anglers as a body. I regret to have to admit that there is a minority, larger in numbers than I could wish, who partially deserve his strictures; but if you could confine these men in London you would not make better men of them. Anglers, on the whole, will compare favourably with any other class of excursionists. There is also a *per contra*. I have had to sit and have my ears polluted by the foul language of young "Hodge," coupled with great annoyance—the answer to the mildest remonstrance being stones.

Mr. Huntley gave the management of the Clappers pool to the Reading Association, thinking it was an association really to protect the public at large in their enjoyment of the sport. The Association immediately stuck up a notice-board revealing their selfish localism. Mr. Huntley promptly answered the notice—he withdrew the control of the pool from them.

If London anglers were properly organised they could, with their wealth and numbers, deal a severe blow to this selfishness; but they must not run away with the idea that £400 per annum is a grand sum to provide angling for every one of the thousands of London anglers. Secure, if possible, a field or two at any rent, dividing such fisheries into two, and allow none of the locals, except such as were not members of the local associations, on such fields. Provided cut of the thousands among London anglers two hundred were willing to do the same, I am willing to put down three guineas per annum to endeavour to secure waters and prevent them falling into the hands of any exclusive clubs, whether London or local clubs. I would take waters where Sunday fishing was not allowed, and keep them open to the public as far as possible.

Apologising for trespassing so much on your space,—I am, &c.,

A. J. MARRIOTT.

SEMMERWATER.

SIR,—Would you kindly allow me to correct your error as regards the fishing on the Lake Semmerwater? When you were fishing there—probably a few years ago—the fishing was free. But, in the year 1881, the Wensleydale Angling Association was formed, and the Lake Semmerwater is included in it and preserved by it. They prosecuted and convicted some netters last summer for poaching in its tributaries. Tickets can be had for the above association from the hon. secretary, W. E. M. Winn, Esq., or from your humble servant, who is always glad to give any angler visiting our neighbourhood any information he may require. Semmerwater is also nearer to Askrigg than Hawes—I am, &c.,

JNO. SKIDMORE.

Askrigg, February 5th.

[We are glad to hear this.—E. D.]

SALMON IN TROUT STREAMS.

SIR,—Having no report to send you this week, perhaps you will excuse my making a few remarks about the letters appearing in your columns with respect to the action of the Yorkshire Fishery Board. In effect, one of your correspondents says, "What right have salmon, or, for that matter, any other fish, to frequent the same streams that trout and grayling do?" Why does he not deplore the wholesale destruction of salmon ova by his favourites? Had it been salmon devouring trout or grayling spawn I can, in imagination, hear a growl awfully intense at the iniquity. Why grumble when your favourites are literally rolling in food? Why grumble, forsooth! because they won't take what I want them to. 'Twas ever so. One man can lead a horse to the water's brink, but ten cannot make him drink. Why, sir, I have fished the day long for nothing to speak of, but on ascertaining the cause I was not surprised; the fish have been crammed with stone gill and similar feed. I did not "cuss" because the fish persisted in neglecting my bait, but simply said, "We'd better bide a wee." Why salmon should be stigmatised as "miserable," "wretched," "emaciated" (because of their delicate state after performing their natural functions), and literally outlawed is past my limited comprehension. Perhaps it is because I am a Conservative; yet would I be a Liberal, yea, a Radical, to the salmon. I would remove the impediments in the way of their ascent to the upper reaches of all rivers, where practicable. I am convinced very little would require to be done at Aysgarth Force. The throng would be relieved, and the many miles of idle spawning ground become utilised. I know it is vexatious, when angling for trout, to catch grayling, out of season and *vice versa*. I also know that, when angling for either, it is vexatious to catch smelts. But why? Simply because you are not allowed to take them at any season. If the taking of smelts was allowed, little opposition would be experienced in allowing salmon to ascend the higher reaches of our rivers. If salmon could get above Aysgarth Force the "throng" at Tanfield would be liberated, and our friend Mr. Walbran's winter fishing thereby improved, and his highly susceptible nature not so often subjected to the severe shock he complains of. The "miserable emaciated kelt" would have more room for aquatic acrobatic performances. Our friend's chances, also, of losing the tail of his highly-prepared worm would also be considerably diminished. I can "go the whole hog" in what our worthy friend says about the netting. I have not the least fear of any difference being made with respect to trout and grayling fishing in this district. If some wholesome restriction was in force, it would much improve the angling here. A stranger has not the least idea of the extent to which the Yore is netted by poachers. I am afraid some of the netting fraternity would be high'y indignant if told to their faces they were poachers. There is no distinction between *meum* and *tuum*. "All the fish are mine if I can get them," is the principle gone upon. I venture to assert there are a dozen cowl nets between Hawes and Yore Bridge. I am convinced that the "strong feeling manifested" was, in a great measure, got up by parties who do not wish the salmon to get out of their clutches. The sooner I am allowed to get over Aysgarth Force the better, is the cry of—

SALMON.

[What trout anglers have to fear most is that the riparian owners may stop trout fishing when the salmon fishing becomes valuable: that they very often do this we all know too well. If there were no fear of this, we should, in the interests of the public generally, say let the salmon come up. But when every season that we go away trout fishing we find waters closed which before had been free, and particularly where salmon have increased, we, naturally, do not feel hopeful of the future. It would be another matter if the salmon were worth catching; but, in nine cases out of ten, the best trout water is in the upper course of a stream, and by the time the salmon get there they are quite unfit to eat, and it is hardly even fair to catch them. The best trout rivers in England, the Hampshire Itchen and Test, would have been turned into poor salmon streams, had it not been for the vigorous resistance of Mr. Francis Francis and other Hampshire trout fishermen.—ED.]

CLUB REPORTS.

ACTON PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

Our competition for roach from the Thames came off last Saturday, and a very nice day it was—blowing great guns, and raining hard. The first prize was taken by Mr. E. Eydmann; the second by Mr. W. Eydmann; the third by Mr. Townsend. Messrs. West and Simpson also weighed in some. Being such a rough day, we did not have such a good show as we hoped for. Mr. West was out on Thursday with one of the members of the Ealing Dean Society, and they took over 20 lb. of fine dace at Twickenham.—BLACK BAG.

AMICABLE BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

Twenty-three of the members journeyed down to Ware to fish the pegged-down match; but owing to the troubled state of the water, the match was declared off. It will be fished for at the Rye House water on Feb. 17th. Messrs. Hunt, Dwel'ay, and Partrick weighed in roach; Arnold and Wick, dace.—J. WORLEDGE.

ANCHOR AND HOPE ANGLING SOCIETY.

On the 3rd inst. several of our members competed for 3 prizes, roving go where you please, only two being taken. Mr. D. Liston, 1st, dace, from the Colne; Mr. Roker, 2nd, roach, Thames. On the 10th inst. we had a very poor show of fish; Mr. Shackel, perch and roach, 3 lbs., from the Thames; Mr. Roker, dace.—D. DAVIS, Sec.

ANGLERS' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

Since my last report I beg to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of annual subscriptions, £1 1s. from T. R. Sachs, Piscatorial Society; 10s. 6d. from A. Rogers, Izaak Walton Angling Society.—R. GURNEY, sec.

BATTERSEA FRIENDLY ANGLING SOCIETY.

The entries for the sweepstakes (open to hon. members) closes on Tuesday next; entrance one shilling. All subscribers are requested to attend on Tuesday, when the date, and place to be fished at, will be named. Members are requested to examine rule 4.—A. SAMPSON, hon. sec.

CITY OF LONDON ANGLING SOCIETY.

Several of our members visited Amberley and the Lea on the 3rd; but, owing to the bad condition of the rivers, returned with blanks. Mr. Castell weighing in a few roach from King's Langley. On the 10th, Mr. Gentry weighed in a pretty show of perch, chub, and dace from the Stort; Mr. Castell, roach, perch, dace, and gudgeons from the Thames at Wraybury; and Mr. Chambers, roach from Amberley.—CAS

CLAPHAM JUNCTION ANGLING SOCIETY.

On the 10th inst. Mr. Maslin and Mr. Banfield weighed in dace from Twickenham, the former 4 lb. 7½ oz., and the latter 3 lb. 12 oz. On the 7th inst. a splendid otter, presented to the society by one of the members, Mr. J. C. Innes, was sent off to Mr. Wellman to be preserved, and will shortly add to the by no means small collection of cases, the property of the society. The first of a series of smoking concerts was held on the 7th inst., when the members were ably assisted by a large number of the Battersea Friendly, to whom great credit is due for their splendid muster. Amongst the gentlemen who contributed to a programme too lengthy to be quoted in its entirety, the following deserve special mention:—Messrs. Maslin (chairman), Payne (vice-chairman), Johnson, Brewer, Hedges, Speed, F. Gomm, C. Gomm, J. Ray. Great applause followed Mr. Walkley's splendid rendering of "The Old Musquetaire," and nothing but the lateness of the hour saved him from an encore, richly deserved. Mr. Jos. Wheeler lent most valuable service on the piano. A most pleasant evening was brought to a close with "Au'd Lang Syne."—R. A. B.

COBDEN ANGLING SOCIETY.

A nice show of fish was exhibited by our members on the 10th inst., which included over 5 lb. of splendid dace, taken from the Thames, by Mr. Stead. At the weekly meeting on Tuesday a long discussion was held respecting a match that is arranged for the 17th inst. It was agreed that members taking part in the match shall register their names on or before the 16th inst., and go where they like, although only fish taken on the 17th to count. There are three prizes to be fished for, given by Messrs. Maples, Stead, and Giles. A supper will be given to the members out of the entrance money, which is 1s. per member, and Mr. Giles has kindly promised to contribute a leg of mutton towards the same. Members that do not join in the match will be admitted to the supper upon payment of 1s. 6d. each, but they must register their names on or before the 16th inst. One of our members accidentally left a jack rod in the 6.35 p.m. train from West Drayton to Paddington on the 27th Jan. last. Any gentleman having found it will oblige by returning it to the club.—C. REEVES, sec.

CROWN PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

This society was saved a blank on Feb. 3rd, by Mr. W. H. Willcockson, who had 6 lb. 3½ oz. of good roach. On Feb. 10th Mr. Penn weighed in dace and barbel, the latter weighing 3 lb. Mr. Willcockson had roach, dace, perch, and gudgeon; W. Burwash, roach. Mr. Ellis gives a handsome volume of good things for the gross weight of roach taken between Feb. 10th till the end of the season.—W. H. BURWASH, sec.

P.S.—Kindly allow me to correct an error in last week's issue, respecting a concert that is to take place at the Crown Tavern, Clerkenwell Green, on Monday, Feb. 25th, for the benefit of the widow of the late James Willcockson, not Wilkinson, and who was a member of the West Central Angling Society, not of ours, as described. I hope that the brothers and friends of the various clubs will rally round, as this is a most deserving case. Chairman, Mr. G. Randall; pianist, Mr. G. C. Vidall; conductor, Mr. W. H. Willcockson. Tickets, 6d. each; commence at 8.30.

DUKE OF NORFOLK.

We had a fine show of chub on the 10th inst. caught by Mr. Baxter in the Wye, the largest scaling 4½ lb. he has gone to Cooper's to be preserved. Mr. Callum had some nice fish from Taplow, and Mr. Severn some from Chertsey.—J. AVON, sec.

EAST ANGLIAN PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

This club held their annual dinner on Wednesday, 6th inst., at their club house, Royal Exchange, Market Place, Norwich, when a large number of the

members and their friends assembled under the genial chairmanship of Mr. ex-Sheriff Newman (president of the society), and E. B. Grimmer, Esq. (vice-president), occupied the vice-chair. There were also present Messrs. A. Grimmer, Cullington, Binsby, J. J. Rice (hon. secretary), Palmer, Hook, Roberts, Howard, Wright, Pearce, Hall, Otty, Constable, Lamb, Croote, Wilde, High, Restreaux, Minton, Hunt, Silburn, R. Bradley, F. Bradley, Townsend, Edwards, Chiddock, Burton, Gent, Read, Nudd, J. Tillett, Bowhill Wilson, Atkinson, E. S. Steward (city treasurer), A. Wilde, Pepper, Shields, and R. Moll (hon. secretary Norwich Angling Club), &c. The usual loyal and patriotic toasts having been given and warmly responded to, were followed by "The Army, Navy, and Reserve Forces," ably responded to by Messrs. Atkinson and Wilde. "The Mayor and Corporation," proposed by the vice-chair, in the course of whose remarks he alluded with deep feeling to their pleasure in having the honour of Mr. Newman's presence and patronage. The Chairman responded, and proposed the "Health of the Vice-Chair," trusting he might make as good and useful a man as his respected father, who was a worthy citizen. "The East Anglian Piscatorial Society," was warmly proposed by Mr. Palmer, who coupled with it the name of Mr. J. J. Rice (secretary), who, in an able and forcible speech, narrated some facts in respect to the position of the club which must have been eminently satisfactory to the members present; he alluded to the box on the table for receiving subscriptions each meeting towards the Preservation of the Yare and the Bure, and said other societies would do well to follow their example in this respect. "The Patrons," amongst whom they numbered E. Birkbeck, Esq., M.P., and many other gentlemen, were also toasted, as were "The Committee," Messrs. Lamb and Hall responding on their behalf; "Kindred Societies," proposed by Mr. Cullington and responded to by Messrs. Townsend and R. Moll, the latter of whom congratulated the society on its position and wished it increasing prosperity, seeing the box for contributions for the preservation of our rivers was a healthy sign and worthy of emulation by other clubs; "The Yare and Bure Preservation Societies," "The Press," and "The Ladies," concluded one of the most successful dinners of this society. The recitations of Mr. Alderman Newman and Mr. Wilde, and the singing of Messrs. Wilson, Cullington, Palmer, Tillett, Moll, T. Bradley, and R. Bradley contributed much to the pleasure of the evening, not forgetting Mr. A. Wilde at the piano; and great praise is due to the host for his excellent catering.

EXCELSIOR ANGLING SOCIETY.

The members fished a peg-down match at Staines on the 10th inst. for four money prizes, Mr. W. Hopkins taking first, Mr. Barnett second, Mr. Brown third, Mr. J. Hopkins fourth. I am happy to say we have had another friendly visit from the Wellington Club, headed by their worthy host, Mr. Hills. Our usual business being over, we proceeded to harmony, Mr. Hillier singing "The Masher," and "Far Away" for an encore, both in fine style; Mr. Richardson, Mr. Harris, Mr. Leckett, Mr. Wright, Mr. Furlough (original recitation), Mr. Lambert, Mr. Collins, Mr. Garrod, Mr. Hopkins, and Mr. Rawlings with a recitation in good style, all contributing to pass a very enjoyable evening. I have much pleasure to inform you that the match for £5 aside will take place on the 17th inst., and friends wishing to be there will know where it is to be by applying at the King's Head, Newington Causeway, on Saturday, 16th inst., between one and two o'clock, where the contestants will settle the water to be fished, or at any of the two club houses after three o'clock on Saturday, 16th inst.—T. H. HOPKINS, sec.

GOLDEN BARBEL.

Several members of this society exhibited fish from the upper Thames on the 10th. The following had fish:—J. Stanton, perch; J. Green, roach, dace and perch; J. Allen, roach, dace, perch, and chub; W. Henrie, roach and perch; J. Jones, roach and dace; and G. Stoner, roach and dace. On the 12th, Mr. Chapman had a nice lot of fish from Windsor. Members are informed that the time of starting next Sunday will be by the 9 o'clock train from Paddington, and leave off fishing at 5.30. In addition to the list of prizes spoken of in a former report, the following have been added:—a pair of boots, given by Mr. J. Trowbridge, for the largest fish taken during the day by any member—with the exception of the winners of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prizes. A special prize for the largest roach and perch has also been given. Referring to "chub with gold spots," the fish can be seen at Mr. Stone's, butcher, in the Kentish Town Road. Perhaps some of the members of the North-Western will pass their opinion upon it, and oblige.—P. XII.

GRANGE ANGLING SOCIETY.

There was a good attendance on Thursday, the 7th inst., when seven honorary and three active members were enrolled. During the course of the evening, Mr. H. Ward read a piece of poetry, which he had composed and dedicated to the society.—W. KAYES, hon. sec.

GREAT YARMOUTH PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

The meeting of this society on Monday was a most pleasant one, especially when the following additional donations were duly announced from London:—

	£	s.	d.
West Central Association	..	..	5 5 0
United London Anglers' Association	..	..	5 5 0
Richmond Piscatorials	..	..	2 2 0
Cambridge Friendly Angling Society	..	..	1 1 0
North-Western Angling Society	..	..	1 1 0
Cobden Club Angling Society	..	..	0 10 6
Westbourne Park Piscatorials	..	..	0 10 6
Watford Angling Society	..	..	0 9 0
London South-Western Railway Angling Society	..	..	0 2 6
Rodney Piscatorials	..	..	0 2 0

And they were decidedly of opinion that our worthy friend, Mr. Benningfield, would have the honour of sending Mr. Lark the £5, as, no doubt, the last item of 2s. would amply satisfy that gentleman that London anglers are and can be counted upon at a higher price than 2s. per dozen for a good cause, and I hope Mr. Benningfield will have the same smile of satisfaction when he reads this as I have when I am writing it. It was also resolved that a vote of thanks be recorded to all those secretaries of societies and gentlemen who have so nobly assisted us to defend and go on with our case, accompanied with the card of honorary membership of this the parent society of Yarmouth, and should they ever visit this neighbourhood, they will be able to enjoy some of the privileges they have assisted us in obtaining for the angling public. It was also resolved that a detailed list of subscribers be printed in your journal, which will be in your hands next week. The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the treasurer and myself.—J. LARK, hon. sec.

[For continuation of Club Reports see page 81.]

JAMES OGDEN,

28, WINCHCOMB STREET, CHELTENHAM,
PRACTICAL ANGLER, FLY DRESSER, AND MANUFACTURER
OF EVERY DESCRIPTION OF FISHING TACKLE,

Solicits a trial of his

World-Renowned Trout and Grayling Flies,

Also Lis

Celebrated Floating May Flies, Green & Grey Drakes.

Which are still being dressed by the same experienced hands as for many years past, and can only be obtained at the old shop,

28, WINCHCOMB STREET.

JAMES OGDEN'S

Multum in Parvo Fly Rods.

PRICE 21s.,

The enormous and increasing demand for which is a sufficient guarantee for the high estimation in which they are held by the leading anglers of the day.

All Standard Flies ordered, or dressed correct to pattern, will be despatched by return of post.

N.B.—NO CONNECTION WITH ANY OTHER PERSONS ASSUMING THE SAME NAME.

"Art, en pire, earth itself, to change are doomed."—THE HERMIT.

EXCHANGE.

Things Wanted—to BUY, to SELL, or to EXCHANGE.

N.B.—We take no responsibility whatever in connection with advertisements inserted in this or other parts of this paper; but beg our readers to expose any case of imposition. The prices for inserting advertisements in this "EXCHANGE" Column are 6d. per line for one, or 4d. per line for more than one insertion. Address Manager, FISHING GAZETTE, 12 and 13, Fetter Lane, London, and send stamps with the order, or the advertisement cannot be inserted.

FOR SALE.—Eggs from blue hens mated with pure pile game cock, to breed "honeydun" and "rusty blue" chickens. 3s. 6d. per sitting of thirteen. S. Howarth, 184, Station Road, Burton-on Trent. Maker of the Detached Boded Duns.

FOR SALE.—Fly rod, good, no rubbish, with two top joints, landing net and handle (which is hollow to carry top joints), reel, line, and book of flies complete. Price 35s.—41, Chapman Road, Small Heath, Birmingham.

WANTED.—Golden pheasant tips and frills, for Salmon Flies. Lowest price to V., care of Editor, FISHING GAZETTE, 12, Fetter Lane, London.

WANTED.—Particulars and prices of Secondhand Books on Angling and Fish Culture. Must be in good condition.—Address Editor, FISHING GAZETTE, 12 and 13, Fetter Lane, London, E.C.

FOR SALE.—A 14ft mottled cane general rod, by Bowness; used only three times; cost 50s., price £1. M. E. Hosken, 49, Cazenove Road, Stoke Newington, N.

FOR SALE.—A quantity of rough pluckings of fowls' ribs, &c., 6d. per plucking. No Blues. Apply to J. Rowe, Barnstable.

FOR SALE.—A Book containing 30 gross (hens) Hackles, Blues, all shades, with honeyduns. Price £3 10s. (seventy shillings).—Address Hackle, care of Editor of this paper.

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RIVER REPORTS.

TIME OF HIGH WATER IN THE THAMES.

To find the time of high water in the Thames at any of the following places to the time of high water at London Bridge (given below).

	30 minutes for Chelsea.
40 "	Putney.
45 "	Hammersmith.
50 "	Barnes.
55 "	Kew.
75 "	Richmond.
80 "	Twickenham.
85 "	Teddington.

Example:—If it is high water at 2 o'clock at London Bridge, it will be high water at Teddington about 3.25, or eighty-five minutes later; but it must be remembered that a strong wind accelerates or retards the tide very much.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.

		Morning.	Afternoon.
For Saturday, February 16 ..	..	5.1	5.17
Sunday, " 17 ..	..	5.34	5.51
Monday, " 18 ..	..	6.10	6.27
Tuesday, " 19 ..	..	6.48	7.11
Wednesday, " 20 ..	..	7.38	8.8
Thursday, " 21 ..	..	8.43	9.25
Friday, " 22 ..	..	10.8	10.51

THE LOWER THAMES.

GENERAL REMARKS.

At the meeting of the Local Board at Hampton Wick, last week, it was reported that a letter had been received from the manager of the gasworks announcing that cesspools had been provided to receive the surface drainage on their premises, and that all connection between the surface drains, recently objected to, and the water-course flowing through Bushey Park had been cut off. Mr. Tatham, of Hampton Wick, is entitled to great credit for the movement he so energetically stimulated in connection with the recent poisoning of fish, and supplemented, as it has been, by Sir Thomas Nelson and the Local Board, it has, without doubt, led to this important result. It only shows if gentlemen residents on the banks of the Thames would take the same interest which Mr. Tatham has done, the river and the fishery would be largely benefited. A man of the name of John Hopson has reported that he shot an otter at Thames Ditton, weighing 10 lb., on the 26th of January, and which has been preserved and shown this week to one of the river-keepers. The water has been rising, but its colour has not been very much disturbed.

Richmond.

Christopher Brown, in a couple of days, five dozen of roach and dace, and Job Brain, in the same time, 20 lb. weight. The following fish have been registered by the bank anglers at the Jolly Anglers during the week:—Mr. Waller, 3 lb.; Mr. Blake, 2½ lb.; Mr. Grey, 1½ dozen; Mr. Bazler, 3½ dozen, and a barbel of 1½ lb.; Mr. Tayzell, 1½ dozen; Mr. Steade, 5½ lb.; Mr. Turner, one dozen; Mr. Weberley, one dozen; Messrs. Martin and Skelton, as the result of three days, 26 lb.; and Mr. Gibbons, two dozen.

Twickenham.

Richard Coxen, in two days, fourteen dozen of dace and 2 lb. of roach; John Coxen, jun., in one day, seven dozen of dace and six gudgeon; Pert Hammerton, in two days, 24 lb. of roach and dace; John Spong, in three days, with Mr. Walker, of the Two Sawyers, fourteen dozen of roach and dace; another day, with Mr. Hull and Mr. West, five dozen of dace; and another day, with Mr. Goodyer, six dozen.

Self and Pert Hammerton, in one day, five dozen of dace. J. Spong, with two gentlemen, four dozen of roach and dace; another day, with Mr. Campbell, 10 lb. roach and dace. The water is very thick, but, if rain keeps off, it will be good again by the end of the week. The best bait is the red worm and boiled barley.—W. WALKER.

Teddington.

Benjamin Stevens has taken three fine barbel, of the respective weights of 8½ lb., 7½ lb., and 5½ lb. The water in the Tideway on Wednesday morning was rising and getting thick.

Kingston.

John Johnson, sen., in one day, five dozen of very fine dace; and John Johnson, jun., three jack of 3 lb. each, and seven perch.

BANK ANGLERS.—There has been some good sport at King's-on and Surbiton amongst the barbel, roach, dace, and perch.

East Moulsey.

William Milbourne, in one day, a brace of jack, and seven perch; John Smith, one barbel of 7 lb.; and Thomas Wheeler, two barbel weighing, together, 10 lb.

BANK ANGLERS.—Perch, roach, dace, and gudgeon have been taken in nice quantities between Hampton Court and Sunbury.

Docket Point.

James Haslett, in one day, with Mr. J. L. Meyer, a chub of 4 lb.; and another day, one barbel and one bream, weighing together 6 lb., and a few roach of 1 lb. each.

Not much to report, owing to the absence of anglers. Let's hope the wind will be more quiet and give us a chance in the open parts of the river. Fishing with Mr. J. L. Meyers, 9th, one chub, 4 lb. Owing to the wind blowing so hard, we could not fish the other swims. With Mr. Jenkins, 10th inst., one barbel, one bream, two fish 6 lb. and roach, 1 lb. each. A lovely quiet day now, but unfortunately no one down. Water, good order for roach and bream.—J. HASLETT.

Chertsey.

J. Poulter, in one day, 10 lb. of roach, and one perch; a gentleman fishing from the banks, a jack of 3 lb.

Staines.

E. Keene, in one day, two dozen of roach and dace; John Keene, two dozen of roach, and three perch; John Keene, jun., one day, a handsome pike of 10½ lb.; and another day, six dozen of roach and dace.

Thames (Sonning.)

We have once more got the water in very good all-round fishing. The floods have driven the fish in the eddies. There have been some very good perch taken; largest, 1½ lb. Mr. Huggett got a good many roach; none of any size. A person called Corpeel got some nice perch, and had several good jack on, some over 9 lb.; was fishing with single hook, and they got away. Just by Sonning Bridge, a gentleman out with Moss got a few good perch; he said they had a jack on over 20 lb. just by the barbel swim. We know what 20 lb. mean—nearer 10 lb. as a rule. If we get no more rain there ought to be some good takes. The perch are very forward in spawn. The Loddon at Twyford is all under water. It will take several days before it will be fishable.—W. HULL, The French Horn.

Shepperton.

Water very thick, but getting down very fast. Not much prospect for fishing for some few days. The weirs are all open, which causes too much stream for punt fishing. The bank anglers have been doing well with the roach; one caught two bream on the 10th inst., the largest weighing 3 lb. On Thursday, a gentleman fishing for jack caught a fine trout, about 8 lb., near Mr. G. Purdue's boathouse, which he returned to the river. There are plenty of jack to be seen on the meadows, but the water is not low enough to bring them into the Thames.—W. ROGERSON.

UPPER THAMES.

The river once more is getting down to its normal height and becoming a fishable stream—a eulogium which could hardly have been pronounced upon it for the past month or more. Chub are already on the move, as evidenced by some excellent takes in the Medmenham district by a patron of Bob Young—

Mr. Sturgess, I believe, of last season's 12 lb. trout notoriety. At Caversham, last week, some six jack were had by various good men and true, the best (7 lb.) being shown at Host Hue's, of the Crown, and afterwards furnishing a gastronomical treat to that gentleman and friends. The fifty brace of trout which were placed last week in the Marlow waters were, it seems, located out of flood water, and will doubtless, therefore, remain to repay the purchase, which Mr. C. Footit, the energetic piscatorial host of the Complete Angler Hotel, tells me was a particularly inexpensive one. Weather evidently settled down for dry and cold. Wind, due north.—MARLOW BUZZ.

Goring.

Water now in good order for jack and perch and for all-round fishing. Best day, six jack, largest 5 lb. Prospects look good for the next few days.—JOHN RUSH.

Wraysbury.

Thursday, water fine down. If this fine weather lasts for another day or two, we shall get splendid takes on the 17th I anticipate. Lately, on account of thick weather and gales, we have had nothing to do but look at the water—the fish could not be found. Gentles and worms on the 17th will entice a few of the hungry ones to bite steel.—ROACH.

Fynsham.

Water in the Thames, Evenlode Windrush, and Cherwell is now perfection, and should the present lovely weather last, there is every prospect of a good finish off for the season. There have been several takes of roach (many of them scaling 1 lb. each) about here; small lobworms are the favourite bait. We have not been able to induce the perch to move, although, with other anglers, I have tried hard to take some. Jack are feeding very well, and I hear of several nice ones being taken.—W. B. HOWE.

Oxford.

The water is again in grand condition, and everything, including wind and weather, is as favourable to sport as could be possibly desired, and during the week several heavy captures here have been made both in the upper and lower waters. On Friday in the Cherwell, Mr. Stephen Davis had a few roach and a fine club going 3½ lb. On Saturday, in Sandford Pool, Mr. Deadman, who is accredited with 30 lb. of mixed fish, landed a beautiful jack weighing 17½ lb. From the hon. sec. of the Oxford Angling Society, I learn that on the 10th four magnificent perch weighing respectively 1½, 1½, 1½, and 3½ lb. were taken by two working men in the same piece of fishery. At Wolvercote, Mr. Boscott, bagged four perch about 1 lb. each in weight, and a nice little jack of 3 lb. On Friday in that delightful bit of streamy back water, running along the Pixies meadow, past the tail of Wolvercote's paper mill, a grand bit of pike, tench, chub, and roach fishing, when there is any current running, Mr. Watts grassed two jack, going 10½ and 4½ lb., and on Saturday and to-day (Thursday), two more going respectively 3 lb. 6 oz. and 4 lb. 13 oz. In Mumley's Fishery between Godstow Lock and King's Weir on Saturday, Mr. Tanner landed a small jack of 2 lb., and to-day a few perch and roach, and a tench of 1½ lb. Angling matters are looking up in Oxford, and certainly not before it was required. Within a few weeks I hope to be able to record the formation of a branch of the O. A. S. in the transpontine regions of St. Clements, and as the society have obtained concession from the G.W.R., to no less than nineteen stations on their line, I have every hope that before long the association will be in a position to exercise a much stricter supervision over the City Waters than they have hitherto been enabled to do.—MFDLEY TROUT.

Ancholme District.

The weather remains very fine and springlike, but the pike have run very badly through the season. There are one or two small grayling streams in Lincolnshire, and anglers complain that these fish have risen very badly likewise. Trout are beginning to feed very freely, but I have heard of no fishing for them as yet, though early flies are abundant. The water is now in nice condition, both in the Ancholme proper and also Riverhead. I advise coarse fishermen to try the latter stretch, and they will go again. Upwards of 50,000 Loch Leven and Fontinalis fry have been turned out into local waters during the past week, so there ought to be something for future fishermen to do.—THOMAS FORD, Caistor.

Ballynahinch.

Since last report we have only fished two days, and succeeded in getting a salmon each day, 11½ and 13 lb. R. H. Beresford, Esq., tried it on Saturday, the 9th inst, and killed one 11½ lb. To-day looks well for fishing: mild, with sunshine, wind north-west; glass steady for this last forty-eight hours, water fine down from a slight spate.—WALTER BLACKADDER.

Chichester.

Variations in the weather have this week been frequent. On Monday a thunderstorm, with a heavy downfall of hail; to-day (Thursday) warm and summerlike. The water is in splendid condition, perch on Wednesday feeding fairly well. Mr. Wright took a couple of nice fish, scaling about 1 lb. each. Some pike, about four pounders, were landed by Mr. W. Coombes, paternostering, while a couple of fine carp broke away in the basin. Some good pike are reported in the lower reaches, myself losing a six or seven pounder in the act of landing through tackle parting. Having received several inquiries respecting the canal and fishing—it is three miles long, well stocked with pike, perch, bream, carp, and roach, and free to all fair fishermen. I shall at any time be pleased to spend a few hours with a visitor.—GEORGE F. SALTER.

Coln (Wraysbury).

This river is in splendid condition for all round fishing. Nearly all this water is next to closed against the anglers. The mill pool, joining the railway station, contains some heavy fish; 1s. per day is the price. Refreshments can be had on the spot for Bue Ribbonists. Do not come without ground bait. Gurney's water, Colnbrook (2s. 6d. per day), is in good order.—ROACH.

Coquet (Weldon Bridge).

On the 8th, Mr. Row killed a fine trout, 1 lb. weight; on the 9th, Mr. H. Barker, 2½ brace. On the 13th the river was flooded in the morning; in the afternoon, she had run down, and the Rev. Mr. Oliver killed six brace, one 12 oz.; Mr. Barker killed 2½ brace, all with worm.—A. GLASS, The Anglers' Inn.

Dee and Don.

The salmon fishing on these two rivers and along the coast, taking the result as a whole, opened fairly auspiciously on Monday last. Whilst on the

Dee angling was prosecuted with considerable success and net fishing proved rather poor. On the Don, rod and net fishing respectively were attended with correspondingly opposite results. It is kept in view that the dykes and cruives on the Don hinder the further progress of fish up the river, especially when it is running high, the splendid results of Monday's net fishing on the various "shots" are easily accounted for. As regards the Dee, its unimpeded course and swollen state combined to render results less satisfactory, many fish escaping the nets in consequence. Throughout the whole of last week both rivers ran high and clear, almost twice their normal size, and if towards its end a slight diminution in their volume was observed on Sunday, they were more swollen than ever in consequence of the rain and gale of Saturday afternoon and evening. Had not a speedy subsidence taken place, it is safe to say that the record of sport obtained by anglers would have proved very meagre indeed. However, a keen frost set in early on Sunday evening, and continued with some intensity till nearly midday on Monday. Anglers were early astir, and long ere noon cold blood had been drawn on several of the well-known reaches of the Dee. Anglers seemed highly pleased that few snow-floats or ice-blocks were noticeable in the river. A fair breeze prevailed, and barring an occasional cloud, the day was bright and fine throughout. There is no doubt, however, that both Dee and Don were rather large for general angling purposes. Though the reports from some of the sections on the Dee are very good, it does not follow that the river was in excellent ply generally, and for this reason—that when a spate prevails, or a fish rise takes place in a swift running river like the Dee, the fish get gregarious, and seek any shelter place or side pool undisturbed by the general current. Hence it is that when an angler has the good fortune to come upon a shoal of resting fish, great havoc is usually made. Again, the water is always a little coloured, and the detection of the angler by the fish less easy than in ordinary circumstances. From the fact that kelts were more numerous in the upper than in the middle sections, it would seem they have not been taking seaward in such numbers as was conjectured. Notwithstanding that the fish caught on Monday were in splendid condition, the price fetched was very much lower than of late years, from the fact, doubtless, that so many were got. With regard to the net fishing on the Don no more is needed than a simple tabulation of the takes at the three stations to prove that fish are taking to the fresh water in considerable numbers. If the water is not too muddy, the higher the Dee continues to run during the week the better for the anglers, as a good many fish are likely to get past the nets. Don net fishing, Monday: Mugiemoss, 250; Grove, 200; Cruives, 170, largest 23 lb. Dee net fishing: Inchgarth, 5, one 16 lb.; Waterside, 5; Weil, 7, one 20 lb.; Polldown, 3; Bridge of Dee, 2; Pot and Fords, 13; Raik and Mid-Shingle, 5; Mouth of Dee, 14; Nigg, 5; Altens, 7; Cove 7; Findon, 5; Portlethen, 3; Skaterow, 4; Muchalls, 5; Cowie, 3, 93 in all; average weight on both rivers, 10 lb. Dee rod-fishing, Abayne district, Monday: Huntly Lodge water, Sir Herbert Lewis, 2 fish, scaling 13 and 18 lb.; T. Watson, Esq., 1 fish, scaling 9 lb. Huntly Arms water, Mr. J. Findlayson, for F. Sandieson, Esq., 4 fish, scaling 8, 9, 13, and 13 lb.; kelts abundant. Aboyne Castle water, Grant, keeper, 1 fish, 5 lb. On Glentanar Lodge water, the keepers for W. Cunliffe Brooks, Esq., M.P., landed 5 salmon, scaling from 5 to 12 lb. Gordon Lodge water, Colonel Keen, 2 fish, 9 lb. each. Banchory district, Monday, Upper Blackhall, Mr. F. Farquharson, for B. Warrack, Esq., London, 7 fish, scaling 11, 10, 10, 9, 9, and 9 lb. Lower Blackhall, Mr. John Pirie, for J. T. Hay, Esq., Edinburgh (the proprietor), 2 fish, scaling 8 and 14 lb. Cairnton, Mr. David Rae, for Mr. Farley, London, 4 fish, scaling 8, 9, 10, and 12 lb. Inverly, Mr. A. Wright, for General Oliphant, 1 fish, 10 lb. Banchory Lodge, Gavin Hadden, Esq., 1 fish, 9 lb. Inchmarle, F. Barbour, Esq., Nottingham, 1 fish, scaling 9 lb. Inverly water, Mr. Robert Brands, 1 fish, 10 lb. On the Lower Crathes and Kineskie waters a few fish were landed on Monday. Messrs. Blacklaws and Son, fishing tackle makers, report the following takes on the Kincardine O'Neil district: Monday, Norton House Water, Wm. Lamond, Esq., 2 fish, 9 and 12 lb. Borrowstone Water, Walter D. Leslie, Esq., of Drumrossie, 3 fish, 6, 6½, and 8½; J. Harper, keeper, 1 fish, 10 lb.; Desswood, G. Arbuthnot Leslie, Esq., 1 fish, 10½ lb.; Ballagie water, the Hon. David Arbuthnot, 1 fish, 9 lb.; Carlogie Water, Admiral Farquhar, 2 fish, 6½ and 10 lb.; Commonly water, J. Duncan, keeper to R. Farquharson, Esq., of Finscan, 2 fish, 9½ and 11 lb. Tuesday, Walter D. Leslie, Esq., on Borrowstone water, 1 fish, 16½ lb. Ballagie, Hon. David Arbuthnot, 1 fish, 9 lb. Mr. George Smith, saddler, sends us the following report from the Ballater District. Monday: Invercauld Hotel water, J. Muller, Esq., 9 and 10 lb. Glenmuick and Pananich water, Mr. Grant, keeper, 2 fish, 8½ and 10 lb. Monaltrie water, Kinnaid, 4 fish, 8 to 12 lb.; Harper, 3 fish, 7 to 9 lb.; Clark, 1 fish, 9 lb. Tuesday, the Monaltrie keepers, 3 fish, 8, 9, and 10 lb.; Mr. Grant, keeper to J. T. Mackenzie, Esq., the proprietor, had 1 of 7 lb on the Pananich water. Invercauld Arms water, J. Muller, Esq., 3 fish, 8, 12, and 14 lb. Braemar district; near Victoria Bridge, Mr. John Lamont landed 1 fish, 9 lb.; Mr. Randal Macdonald, head keeper, Mar Forest, 1 fish, of 10 lb. On Tuesday the river had subsided somewhat: the weather was raw and gusty, lines would not lie on the water, and fewer fish were caught than on Monday. Banchory district, Tuesday, Wester Durris water, Major Gordon, Deeside Highlanders, 1 fish, 9 lb. Inchmarle and Sluie, Dr. Wright, 1 fish, 12 lb. Tillycorthie, Major Ross on Monday landed 2 fine fish. Banchory district, Tuesday, Cairnton, Mr. David Rae, 2 fish, 9½ and 12 lb. Inverly, Mr. A. Wright, 1 fish, 10½ lbs. Banchory Lodge, Monday, Mr. Andrew Craven, 1 fish, 9 lb. On Upper Crathes, Captain Malcolmson landed 2 fish, 10 and 12 lb. Tuesday, on Kinneskie, 1 fish, 12 lb. Upper Blackhall, Mr. Frank Farquharson, 5 fish, 7, 8, 9, 9, and 12 lb. On the Durris and park sections, J. Oliphant, Esq., landed one fish. Dr. Macdonald Hill, J. S., Aberdeen, 1 fish; and a keeper 2 fish.

Reports to hand indicate that the white-winged "Ackroyd" and the white-winged "tricolour" were, in general, used with great success. To day (Wednesday) the river is too much swollen for good sport being obtained. Owing to the bursting of a large pond in the vicinity of Braemar, it is very much coloured, and will likely take a few days to regain its proper appearance.—W. M.

Dove.

The weather and water have greatly improved during the last two or three days, and we have had a fair number of trout and grayling fishers out. The fins have been rising freely, and the blue bumble and blue dun have worked the largest execution amongst them. The dishes would average about five brace per rod. During the week a splendid addition has been made to the fine length of water preserved by Mr. Charles Allsop, M. P., between Dove Dale and Hartington. Over ten thousand trout fry (*Salmo fario*) have been turned in. The vessels containing the fry were carried to the river on six drays, which were thoroughly laden. The chub, dace, bream, and roach anglers have succeeded well on the lower parts of the river, the small red worm again proving most

destructive. There are immense quantities of spring fly on the surface.—**TH SPLODGER.**

Eden (Armathwaite).

The first two days of the season the water was in a state of flood; since then the boats have been successful in taking salmon, and one gentleman caught nineteen trout below Holm Wrangle. Should the weather continue favourable, good sport may be expected.—**SKIDDAW.**

Exe and Barle.

Owing to late rains, rivers are both in splendid order, and trout are very plentiful, and in capital condition. Best time for fishing is from this date till end of April. The river Barle is now opened out for $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles, the underwood having been removed where necessary, and can be easily fished without wading. Any information will be gladly supplied by the undersigned. Very comfortable lodgings can be obtained on reasonable terms in the town, and flies suitable for the water be purchased also from local anglers.—**G. S. JELICOE.**

Ilfracombe.

Sea fishing.—During the past week there has been very little fish caught. On Friday a fine cod, 22 lb. weight, was caught in a trammel that was set off the shallow path. Three cod and a ling only were caught at the Spillers. The weather continues too stormy for ground line fishing from the boats. Wind blowing a gale from the westward.—**E. COMER.**

Lakes of Killarney.

The lakes are entirely out of order this week. We have had a lot of snow on the hills for the last week, and some heavy rain last evening, which made one of the largest floods on the rivers this year, the lower lake won't be fit for fishing for some time to come. Any fishing there is to be is on the middle and upper lakes. As I write the hills seem to be pretty clear of the snow. The number of fish taken for the week:—On the 7th, Tim McCarthy one salmon, $9\frac{1}{2}$ lb., killed on the middle lake; John Robert, one 10 lb. on the same lake. Mr. John Coltsman got two salmon on the upper part of the Flesk, with flies; one of them he killed with the Kate Kearny fly, one with Brown fly, with jay hackle under the wing. 11th, Mr. John C. Coltsman got 10 lb. It is a splendid shade of brown, and looks well when hackle and body match, with a jay hackle under the wing, and a little yellow at the tip; seal fur, mallard and turkey wing, with two sprigs of blue and yellow macaw, and a little breast feather of golden pheasant mixed. 11th, Tim McCarthy, one salmon, 12 lb. with the Kate Kearny; Pat Robert, one, 10 lb.; Pat Clifford, one, 13 lb.; Tom Murphy, one, $11\frac{1}{2}$ lb. 12th, Tim McCarthy, one, $12\frac{1}{2}$ lb. with fly; Tom Murphy, one, 13 lb., with fly. Glenna net during the week twenty salmon; Muckcross, twenty-five salmon; Eugene Thangney, upper lake twenty-two salmon, the largest, 18 lb. They have good sport at Waterville still. It is rather early for the white trout fishing still, until about March.—**TIM MCCARTHY.**

Lee (Co. Cork, Ireland).

Unless one were seized with an extraordinary mania for angling, he would not have approached the banks of the Lee during the first few days of the opening of the present week. A friend who went out on Saturday because he had no other day available informed me that a more wretched day he never spent. Things looked promisingly enough in the morning, and about ten o'clock he succeeded in hooking a fish. Soon after that things changed, and the remainder of the day was spent partly under shelter, while hail and storm began to play in alternate excesses, until the unhappy angler, crestfallen and drenched, had to give up the ghost. There were many others such as he who sought sport only to be rewarded with a visitation of an exactly converse nature. A good deal of snow fell on Sunday, and the presence of this element in the river does not contribute to the "taking" proclivities of the salmon. We were visited by a considerable storm on Monday night, with rain which discoloured the river, but did not render it unfishable. So far, the weather has been against angling, and what has come of this week has been a blank. Some typographical errors occurred in last week's despatch which, but for their awkward nature in attributing to a gentleman a charge of poaching—unwittingly, of course—it would not be necessary to notice. Mr. F. H. Bass was made to appear as having killed two spring salmon on the 31st ult.—that is, the day before the season opened. The passage in my communication was intended to convey that he landed the salmon on the 1st Feb, the opening day; but through some typographical indiscretion the printed report conveyed a misrepresentation of the facts. The error was probably due to indistinct manuscript; but from whatever cause it arose, I take the first opportunity of correcting it.—**ANGLEE.**

Leicester.

During the week the weather has been exceptionally mild for the time of the year. Doubtless to this may be attributed the large number of anglers who have visited the rivers in this locality. The sport has not been anything very brilliant. Roach and chub fishing predominated, and with the heavy grub some nice lots of roach have been had, this being an especially taking bait in our waters at this period of the year. A few chub have been caught, but the large ones do not seem to feed at all eagerly. Pike fishing is quiet, as with the exception of a few brace but little has been done. One basket I saw on Thursday contained two and a half brace, weighing about 20 lb. The Leicester Society waters, and at other places in this locality, the waters are now very fine, so that there is a good outlook for the remainder of the season. On Thursday the weather was unusually mild, and the sun shone during a great portion of the day.—**ALERT.**

Loch Tay (Scotland).

Since Thursday, last week, the weather has been, as a rule, anything but favourable for anglers, and the loch itself has not been in good condition. A considerable quantity of snow has fallen, and the melting of this has again risen the level of the water to a degree which on Thursday last brought angling to a temporary stop. In spite, however, of the uncongenial conditions against which sportsmen have had to contend, some good takes have been obtained, as the following record will serve to show. On Thursday, last week, the Killin Hotel water yielded a number of fine, newly-run fish, of which Mr. Clark, Paisley, had one 21 lb.; Mr. McKinnon, Glasgow, one, 19 lb.; Mr. Mitchell, Glasgow, one, 19 lb.; Mr. Ferguson, Glasgow, one, 19 lb.; Mr. Cowan, Glasgow, two, 15 lb. and 13 lb. On the Lochay Hotel water, Mr. Nicholson, of Sheffield, got a fish of 23 lb. On the Kenmore Hotel water, Mr. Frew had one of 22 lb., and Mr. Brown, one of 21 lb. On the Eastern Reserved Water, Viscount Stormont, from Scone Palace, fishing for about an hour, killed 22 lb.

salmon. On Ben Lawers Hotel Water, Mr. Mulline, of Manchester, had one, of 24 lb.; and Mr. J. S. Gardiner, Liverpool, one, 20 lb. Ardeanaig Hotel water furnished a sixteen pounder to Mr. Duncan, from Edinburgh. On Friday the weather was thick and hazy, and reports were not, in consequence, so satisfactory. Kenmore Hotel water:—Seven or eight gentlemen were out, but the only successful parties were Colonel Carden, Letterallan, 1, 34 lb.; and Mr. James Wilson, jun., of Bantaskine, 1, 18 lb. The Eastern Reserved Water was fished by the Duke of Roxburgh, Lord Stormont and Colonel Murray of Polmaise. Colonel Murray had nothing, but the Duke had a fine 18 pounder, and Lord Stormont landed one weighing 17 lb. Fishing from the Lochay Hotel boats, Mr. Nicholson, of Sheffield, got a fine salmon of 28 lb. On Saturday the weather was very unpropitious, a strong wind and heavy rain preventing anglers from venturing out till the afternoon. A large number of gentlemen tested the Kenmore Hotel water, but only two fish were taken, being secured by Mr. D. G. Howat, of Glasgow, 22 lb.; and Colonel Carden, weight unascertained. Nothing was reported from any of the other waters. On Monday there was a westerly wind and heavy swell on the Loch, and, though the day was very bright, it was cold and unfavourable for fishing. Lord Stormont, Hon. E. Majorbanks, Colonel Murray, and Mr. Sartorius went up to the Killin Reserved water in Lord Breadalbane's yacht *Alma*, but did no good. The Eastern Reserved water was fished by the Duke of Roxburgh, who killed seven fine trout, and by Sir James Ramsay, who got two trout. On the Kenmore Hotel water, Mr. Forrest Frew, Glasgow, got a 16 lb. fish, and Mr. James Wilson, jun., a very fine black trout over 5 lb. in weight. At bridge of Lochay a Mr. Nicholson had two salmon, weighing 16 lb. and 13 lb. On the Killin water Mr. Allan, Glasgow, had two salmon, 19 and 25 lb.; and Mr. McKinnon, one, 21 lb. On Tuesday, from the same water, three beautiful new run fish were taken by Mr. Wheen, London, one 20 lb.; Mr. Gillespie, Inverlaur Lodge, Inverness, one, 19 lb.; and Mr. Broad, London, one, 16 lb. The weather then was such, however, that the loch could not be fished but for a short time in the after part of the day, and on Thursday this week no reports were to hand, the water being too high, and the conditions generally being very unfavourable for fishing. There can, however, be no doubt regarding the abundance of fish in the loch, and with a fall in the level of the water, and more reasonable weather, first-rate sport is anticipated.—**J. MCG.**

Lugg and Arrow.

Both these streams are now gradually going down to their proper level; they are both coloured, but in a few days we may expect to see them clear again. The Earsland waters were visited on Saturday, and a nice lot of trout were taken with the worm. The Arrow was tried on Friday with the same bait, and a very good dish taken. Some very good sport was had in the Ivington district this week: one basket of trout were taken, averaging 10 oz. each. Some very fine trout were landed in the Lugg on Saturday with the worm. Some very good sport was had in the Arrow on Monday, and a very good basket of trout was taken in the Lugg. There has been but little doing in the Shobden water this week. The fishing in the Bodenham water is quiet. The Pinsley is now rather high and coloured, but is gradually lowering. Some very nice fish were landed on Friday with the worm, and some very fine trout were taken on Monday with the same bait in this quarter. There is every prospect of the weather clearing up, this morning being remarkably fine.—**GWYNNE.**

Medway (Tonbridge).

Water very thick, and no signs of it clearing for some days.—**YE MEDWAY WATER-RAT.**

River Nene (Northampton).

The river has been in a state of flood since last report, so that fishing has been tame. On Saturday last a number of the Northampton Working Men's Angling Club members started from the club-house, W. Rigby's, Half Moon, Bridge Street, to compete for prizes offered by the club; but the weather being so rough, they had to return; but during the week some fine samples of roach have been taken by Messrs. Garrett, Burrows, Eyte, Bullock, G. Johnson having been among them in the free water of the Borough. The pike have been on the feed during the week, and some nice fish have been taken.—**T. F.**

Ouse and Ivel (Blunham).

These rivers could scarcely be in better condition. Excellent sport has been had. The first and second prizes of the Cambridge and Ely Angling Society were taken in the Ivel; and on Wednesday pike were well on the feed. Mr. Nevett had a heavy basket, the largest weighing 16 lb., and the second 14 lb.; his two friends had also a nice show.—**T. E.**

Severn (Gloucester).

The river has gone down nicely, but the weather keeps so very unsettled that anglers generally have not ventured to the water side; but one or two more venturesome than the rest have been rewarded with very good catches of flounders in the river and roach in the canal. The salmon season has opened well; I have seen fourteen beautiful fish in one fishmonger's shop, all caught within three miles of the city. They are asking 2s. per lb.—very cheap for the beginning of the season.—**YE FAYRE CITYE.**

Tay.

Angling on the river has been subject to the same drawbacks as operated on the loch-flooded condition of the water and disagreeable state of the weather. Nevertheless, takes have been by no means scarce, and the fish are of first-rate quality. Some beautiful salmon have also been obtained in the Lyon, one of the upper tributaries. The river reached its highest pitch of flood on Wednesday this week, and on Thursday it had fallen considerably, and was rapidly sinking.—**J. MCG.**

Teme (Ludlow).

The waters of the Teme are still rather high and coloured, the weather being unfavourable to the clearing of the streams, and anglers this week have had but a middling time of it. A fisherman, well knowing the banks of Teme, visited the Teme in the Ashford quarter on Monday, and secured with the worm about 4 or 5 lb. weight of trout. Another gentleman from Ludlow the same day caught a splendid dish of trout in the Teme. We heard of several other fishermen trying their hands, but they met with no sort of success, and had to trudge home with empty baskets. From inquiries made we find that there has been no fishing in the Leintwardine Club waters; in fact, we have not heard of anything doing at all in this upper part of the Teme. Excellent trout abound in the Letwyche waters, but anglers have not visited the stream of late. In the Onibury waters a few trout have been caught, but the stream has, like the Clun, not had many visitors. A gentleman on Wednesday went a mile or two up the Corve, but was not very successful, only managing to secure three trout, but they were very nice ones. The fish, however, do not

yet take the bait kindly. This morning (Wednesday) is a very fine one, the sun shining brightly and the birds singing merrily in the boughs of the trees—a true spring morning—tempting anglers to seek the riverside in quest of their favourite spot.—S. LUDLOW.

Teme (Tenbury).

There is still a considerable body of water going down this part; the river is rather muddy. Some very fine trout were landed in the Teme on Friday with the worm, and another nice lot were taken on Saturday with the worm. A gent fishing near the bridge, the same day with the worm, landed a nice lot of trout, weighing about 4 lb. the lot. There has been but little doing in the Letwyche of late, the water being too much coloured. The Kyre and Rea are both rather high and discoloured, and there has been but little fishing doing. We are told that the waters of this part are better stocked with fish than has been the case for some time.—WORCESTER.

Torridge (Torrington).

Since last report about two dozen trout have been taken with the rod. One gent who took nine told me that he found the best fly was the blue dun with silver twist. This has been the finest day we have had for the spring—quite warm in the sun. This will bring out the flies, and cause the fish to sport. If this weather continues we may expect good fishing next week.—PRACTICAL ANGLER.

Trent (Newark).

We have been favoured with some splendid weather these last two or three days, and several anglers have been out, but as far as I can learn no very sensational catches have been made; only a few odd roach, &c., &c., have been taken. During the early part of the week the weather and water were in anything but good condition for angling, but to-day there is a decided improvement in the condition of the water, and by Saturday or Sunday should be in fairish form for chub or pike fishing, although (considering the very mild weather we have had this winter) the latter fish are getting in a very advanced state, and ought not to be taken much longer this season. The cockspur worm will be found the best bait for roach, &c., and chub can be tried with pith and brains.—THE TRENT OTTER.

Trent (Nottingham).

As I anticipated, the Trent in this district was in a very fair condition for chub and pike fishing on Monday; and, although the wind blew "great guns," a large number of the votaries of the art patronised the stream. Two friends of mine visited the famous reach of Sir Henry Bromley, at Stoke, but failed to get so much as a run; and it is evident that, so far as this fishery is concerned, it has been overdone during the winter months. On the 2nd I saw a fresh-run salmon that had been killed a few miles above Nottingham; and I learn that one has been obtained out of the Willington length. Salmon have been seen "picking" in the field below King's Mills Weirs, and it is the intention of the lessee to bring the nets into plentiful use as the season gets more advanced. A splendid lot of roach and dace was caught in one of the upper waters on Wednesday with what is locally known as the leen worm. The largest roach was 1 lb 9½ oz.; the second largest, 1 lb 8½ oz.; whilst the dace averaged 7½ oz. apiece. During Wednesday the river rose several inches with a good deal of colour in it, and on Thursday—a glorious day—bottom anglers were busy in all directions.—THE MAN AT THE CLUBS.

Waterville (Co. Kerry).

The fishing opened here on the 1st of February with every prospect of a good season. Tim Leary caught one salmon on the 1st; James Healy two salmon on the 2nd; on the 4th, Paddy Connell caught one salmon; Mick Brennan three salmon; James Healy two salmon. Mr. Sugrue one salmon on the 5th; Paddy Connell caught one salmon, the average weight being about 13 lb.—M. McELLIGOTT.

Waveney (Beccles).

Water now in good condition for all-round fishing. The fish have been feeding well during the week, and Mr. Mark Mills, the veteran pike fisher, has been out and succeeded in capturing upwards of thirty pike from 3 to 5 lb. each, all taken with live bait. Roach have been biting well, and some fairly good fish have been taken. Roach anglers are now beginning to wake up, and no doubt I shall soon be able to send you reports of good takes of fish. To-day (Thursday), we are having rain, but I hope we shall not get sufficient to again swell the river. General prospects good. Wind S.E.—A WAVENEY ANGLER.

Wharfe (Yorkshire).

Last Saturday was a most wretched day, but there was a fair sprinkling of anglers upon the river's bank. I regret to say that their perseverance under difficulties did not meet with due reward, as the fish, both trout and grayling, were not at all on the feed. Between 4 and 5 o'clock in the afternoon, however, they apparently awoke from their lethargy, and a Bradford gentleman in a very short time caught five trout, with worms, the rest of the fishermen having given up previously, owing to disgust at their want of success. River is now in good order for fly fishing, but except on the pool length, trout cannot be taken until April 1st, and, in my opinion, this rule should be universal—at all events, in the northern counties.—FRANCIS M. WALBEAN.

Wye and Derwent.

We are having some beautiful fine mild weather just now, and both the Wye and Derwent are running down nicely; in fact the higher lengths of both rivers are now in very fair condition for fly fishing. The natural flies have been out in great quantities both yesterday and to-day (Thursday), and I have seen several fish, both trout and grayling, that have been rising at them. Sport amongst the bottom fishers on the Derwent, on Mr. F. Cartwright's water, just below Cromford, has been first class, and baskets of trout and grayling, up to eleven brace per angler, have been landed. There have also been some good chub killed, all taken with worm for bait. Fly fishing ought to be good next week, bumble, claret body, point furnace, first drop; and spider fly, second drop. These are the best flies for either the Wye or Derwent for next week.—GEO. JAS. EATON.

Yare (Norwich).

During the past week the weather has been everything that could be desired, yet sport appears to be very slow. I quite expected to have heard of some fish being taken spinning with the natural bait, but cannot learn of anything done except in private waters, live baiting. Several reports have reached me of small catches during the earlier part of the day. In one case, seven fair-size fish were taken immediately the anglers commenced, and then they had not another run all day. Other catches of from four to seven fish with two rods do not say much for bright, clear water and still weather. My opinion is the water

has been too low and clear for successful live baiting; in deeper parts it has been all right. To-night, or, rather, to-day, a change has set in—rain has been falling more or less all day—and if this does not continue long it will improve the fishing. Prospects still good.—ROBERT MOLL.

CLUB REPORTS.

[continued from page 77.]

GRESHAM ANGLING SOCIETY.

The ordinary weekly meeting of the above society was held at the Masons' Hall Tavern, Masons' Avenue, Basinghall Street, on Tuesday evening, Mr. Crumplen in the chair. The minutes were read and confirmed, and Mr. J. C. Chubb was duly elected a member of the society. A letter was read from the secretary of the National Angling Clubs Competition, stating that the annual competition would take place at Loch Leven, and that a ticket had been allotted to the society to enable them to send one of their best anglers. At the suggestion of the chairman it was agreed to let the matter stand over for the attendance of Dr. Brunton, who represented the society on the last occasion. The chairman, after referring to his recent paper on "The Red Skies," said that it afforded him great pleasure to make an addition to the library of a useful little work, entitled, "Optics Without Mathematics." On the motion of Mr. Bentley, seconded by Mr. Lake, a vote of thanks was unanimously accorded to him for the same. The following competitions were decided upon:—Roach competition, Tuesday, 26th February, two prizes given by Captain A. Fred and the committee; and perch competition, Tuesday, 11th March, for prizes given by Mr. Bates and Dr. Lloyd. The conditions of the roach competition are the same as on the last occasion (29th January, 1884), and the rules of the perch competition are, with the exception of the minimum weight, precisely similar. In both instances the use of the Alresford Pond is precluded. It was thought unnecessary to have these rules sent to each member as on former occasions. A copy of them can be seen in the society's room. Some considerable time was taken up in completing the arrangements for the conversazione, which is to take place on Tuesday next, and which bids fair to be a great success. The usual vote of thanks to the chairman brought the business portion of the evening to a close. Some excellent musical selections followed.—H.

HOXTON BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

Twenty-one of our members visited Shiplake on the 10th inst. to fish for seventeen prizes, which were all won, 18 members taking fish. On the 24th inst. the members will fish for several valuable prizes, being one of the last days of jack fishing in the river Lea this season.—R. GHURNEY.

LITTLE INDEPENDENT ANGLING SOCIETY.

The following members only weighed in on the 10th:—Mr. Graham, roach, 3 lb. 8 oz.; gudgeon, 12 oz.; and perch and dace, 10 oz.; Mr. Petrie, chub and perch. On Monday, Feb. 18th, we have our general return visit on the Eastern district list. Brother anglers and friends are cordially invited. On Feb. 24th we compete for a series of prizes at the Welsh Harp.—W. BROWN, sec.

PECKHAM BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

The match fished at Shepperton on the 10th inst. resulted in favour of T. Kemp, "Sailor" being second; Messrs. Durant and Turner also had fish; James Stidolph had a jack of 6 lb., from Wraybury. Our president, Mr. Brodie, was among the roach last week—fifteen fish weighing as many pounds; the four largest have been sent for preservation, A. B. saying he intended getting one of 2 lb. for the centre of the case. "2 lb. roach want finding now." At a meeting of this club on the 5th, a vote of thanks was tendered to Mr. Newton, of the Metropolitan A. S., and to Mr. Whiltshire, of the Bloomsbury Brothers, for the trouble they took in connection with a supposed case of buying fish. Although we are all pleased to know that no member of ours was guilty, still the fact remains, that a person did buy fish from a native at West Drayton, and Messrs. Newton and Whiltshire deserve the thanks of all true anglers for making the matter known. A match will be fished on the 17th inst. for prizes, given by Messrs. Branches, Martin, Day, Regardros, Gold, and Parsons, open match, all fish to weigh. Should the weather be as fine as it is while I am writing, we might have a big show.—GADFLY.

PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

The usual weekly meeting took place at Ashley's Hotel, Covent Garden, on Monday evening last. Mr. R. E. Booker was unanimously voted to the chair. Amongst the members present were Messrs. F. G. Pearce, J. Lander, T. Gillatt, J. Pattison, D. Goodger (in his boots), F. H. Lemann, E. J. Walker, R. C. Blundell, T. Huggett, E. Foreman, J. Hill, E. Bennett, P. Gray, R. S. Fennings, H. B. Brown, J. Q. Bird, &c. Mr. P. Geen was a visitor. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The hon. secretary, in reply to questions concerning the whereabouts of the model and case of the large pike from Rapley Lake, informed the meeting that the case was under repair, the same having been damaged at the late Fisheries Exhibition. He hoped to have the same in the club at an early date. Messrs. Goodger and Walker had been out fishing in a private water, but had only very poor sport. A blank was saved by the capture of a specimen fish which fell to the rod of the lucky Doctor. The hon. secretary read a letter from Edward Birkbeck, Esq., M.P., in his capacity as Chairman of the Executive Committee of the International Fisheries Exhibition, 1883, expressing the sincere thanks of his committee for the public spirit displayed by the Piscatorial Society in coming forward as guarantors to aid the enterprise, and further saying that without the help of guarantors the exhibition could not have been held. The success of the exhibition had been such that it would not be necessary to call upon the guarantee fund. It was unanimously resolved that the foregoing letter be entered in the minutes of the society. It is probable that Dr. Brunton will be asked to represent this society in an angling competition to take place shortly at Loch Leven. The stewards of the forthcoming dinner at the Holborn Restaurant are Messrs. Blamey, Grey, Harrison, Lemann, Huggett, Wheatstone, and Foreman, and the vice-chairman—Mr. Fennings. Gentlemen wishing to sit at the table of either of these stewards, or of the vice-chair, will kindly oblige by making early application for tickets, otherwise their positions and tables cannot be guaranteed. The members and their friends are particularly requested to attend the Smoking Concert to be held next Monday evening. A few angling ditties would be apropos. Mr. T. R. S. is again on the war-path. The continued and increasing success of the society was proposed by the chairman, and the health of the chairman having been proposed and carried by acclamation, the meeting terminated. T. H.

NORTH WESTERN ANGLING SOCIETY.

On the 10th ult. there were again a lot of members out trying their abilities; but the weather turned up anything but what several members, who were trying the roach, thought favourable to that particular sport; they, however, succeeded in getting a nice show. Mr. Grindley had a brace of jack from the Welsh Harp; Messrs. Underwood, W. Roxbee, and L. Roxbee, roach; R. Marshall, dace.—W. HILLIER, sec.

QUEEN'S ANGLING SOCIETY.

The following members weighed in on the 10th inst.:—Messrs. Walford, perch and dace; Pearce, jack; Fayers, roach and dace; Bedford, roach; Pratt, dace.—L. WALFORD.

RODNEY PISCATORIALS.

Some of the members of this society visited the Thames on the 10th, and succeeded in getting fish in spite of the thunder, hail, and rain that prevailed during the day. Mr. Grant got a bream that turned the scale at 2 lb., and a nice lot of roach and dace; Mr. Marth had dace from Richmond. Mr. Hothan and some friends were out, but failed to scale a fish—poor not being classed as fish in this society. Members and their friends are informed that our supper will take place on the 27th.—PIXIE.

ROYAL GEORGE ANGLING SOCIETY.

Our punt and fishing match, which should have taken place some weeks ago, came off on the 10th inst. Considering the state of the weather the members did very well. Messrs. Palmer and Holden, came in first with a fair show of dace; Messrs. Hewett and Sinclair second, with only a few ounces less; Messrs. Trotter and Barraclough, third, followed by Messrs. Wood and Rider, Guyman and Lloyd, Henderson and Bailly. On going up stream towards Twickenham, Mr. Sinclair and myself heard shouts for help, and looking under the bridge at the "Orleans Club," we saw an old gentleman* struggling in the water (it was high tide), very much exhausted. We rushed to the rescue, and by the aid of a scull, we brought him to the bank, very much the worse for the immersion. It was a most extraordinary coincidence that we should have been passing at the time. Had we not been doing so, he must have been drowned, in the presence of his two weeping children. Our next "smoking concert," will take place on the first Tuesday in March, when we intend inviting some of the members of a club close at home.—W. H. R.

*By the by, I must tell you that the old gentleman was a native of Twickenham.

SOCIABLE BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

On the 10th inst., Mr. Keymer had some fine roach, from the Lea, one a splendid fish going 1 lb. 11½ oz., another scaling 1 lb. 1½ oz.—W. S. W.

SOUTH-EASTERN ANGLING SOCIETY.

We had a very good meeting on the 10th inst. Several members were present, as also eight members from the Excelsior, and some lady visitors. Wednesday a good meeting took place, and I am happy to say the long-talked-of match was settled so far between Jas. Smith, jun., and M. Hopkins, of this club and the Excelsior respectively. The only thing for them now to do is to meet at the King's Head, Newington Causeway, and come to a final settlement as to where to fish, and when. Any member desirous of learning the same may glean the knowledge from the before-mentioned house—also at our club house and also that of the Excelsiors, after 4 p.m. on Saturday, (this day). Plenty of harmony after business is over. We look for a good day, and hope to secure a victory for or by our Boy.—T. H. H. WESTON, sec.

STOKE UPON-TRENT ANGLING SOCIETY.

The first annual meeting of the above society was held at the Roebuck Hotel, Stoke, on Wednesday evening, Feb. 6th. The president (J. E. Hassall, Esq.) in the chair, Mr. E. Cocker occupying the vice-chair. There was also a very good attendance of members. The chairman, in opening the proceedings, read a letter of apology from J. T. Harris, Esq., regretting his inability (owing to previous arrangement) to be present, and expressing his best wishes for the future prosperity of the society. The chairman next called upon the secretary to read the annual report and statement of accounts, showing a balance in the hands of the treasurer of £3 8s. 3d., which was received with applause. Mr. J. Leese briefly proposed the adoption of the report, seconded by Mr. J. Bailey, and was carried unanimously. After some other routine business, in which it was decided to extend the number of ordinary members from 30 to 40, the election of officers for the ensuing year was proceeded with on the proposition of Mr. Wm. Lea, seconded by Mr. W. R. Taylor, and carried with applause. Mr. J. E. Hassall was re-elected president. The president then proposed that Mr. E. Cocker be re-elected vice-president; this was seconded by Mr. J.

Hollins, and carried unanimously. The chairman then moved that Mr. H. Evans, treasurer, and Mr. J. Hollins, hon. sec., be re-elected, which was also carried unanimously. The following were elected, or re-elected, to serve on the general committee: Messrs. W. R. Taylor, W. Evans, W. Sweetnam, F. S. Dale, J. Bailey, P. Ellis, R. Wallace, J. Leese, J. Bickerton, T. Potts, J. Brooks, and A. Morgan, the first seven gentlemen being re-elected. Mr. F. S. Dale and W. R. Taylor were re-elected auditors. A hearty vote of thanks was passed to the honorary members, and the proceedings closed with a vote of thanks to the chairman and vice-chairman.

SURREY PISCATORIALS.

The result of the competition among the members this day is as follows:—Mr. Duck came first with 20 lb. of jack, the largest fish weighed 11 lb. 15 oz. Mr. F. Grigg had 12 lb. of roach; from Tring; several other members also had fish. The next, and last competition of the season will take place on March 12th, for a number of prizes, which will be decided at the ordinary meeting preceding the competition.—PIXIE.

THE RICHMOND PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

The winter dinner of this society which took place on Thursday evening was a great success. We shall have some account of it next week.

UNITED BROTHERS, DEPTFORD.

On the 10th inst. Mr. E. Payne, one barbel, 2 lb. 12 oz., and some nice roach; J. Currans, perch. Several other members out, but had the luck to break away with some nice fish, and returned with blanks. I expect to report some good takes before the close of the season, as all members are going at it with a vengeance. No hair lines, as gut is all the fashion now. All members wishing to have tickets for the South London United fishing match, which takes place at Staines, on the Egham side, on the 24th inst, must apply not later than the 16th inst.—W. T.

P.S.—Mr. Lark can depend on 5s. from the above society in the course of a few days for the Yarmouth Broads Fund.

UNITED LONDON FISHERIES SOCIETY.

The members are respectfully informed that by agreement the Waltham Fishery will be closed for all fishing from March 1st to July 1st. The usual quarterly meeting of the full committee took place on Monday evening last, J. C. Murray in the chair. Several letters were read from persons in various parts of the country, offering store jack and perch for sale. The secretary was empowered (if possible) to rent another piece of water that had been offered to the society.—R. GURNEY, sec.

WALWORTH WALTONIANS.

At the general meeting called for the 14th, Mr. Bayley, in the chair, it was decided that some of the prizes given for the competition on the list for the 21st, be transferred to the competition that takes place on March 2nd. In reference to the appointing delegates to meet the delegates of another society for their mutual benefit, a proposition was made by a well-known member, "That no delegates be sent," was carried by a majority of one. Mr. Field, and the secretary of the South London, paid a visit to this society to challenge a certain number of the members to a friendly competition on the usual terms, viz., a supper. The competition to take place this season, or the commencement of next, whichever the members of this society thought best. The challenge was put to the members present, and it was accepted and decided that it take place on March 9th, the where and how to be decided by the 28th inst. A hearty vote of thanks to the chairman brought the meeting to a close.—PIXIE.

On March 2nd, Mr. Piolaine will give a £2 2s. cup for competition.

The members of this society met in a number at the headquarters on the 10th, the date appointed for the competition for Mr. South's tankards, and several other prizes. This being an open competition the names of the winner, could not be given until the last minute viz., 10.45, in the meanwhile members arrived from all parts; at the time appointed, Mr. Weatherhead led the way with some nice dace from Richmond, Mr. Piolaine came next, followed Mr. Beale, Hawkridge, and J. Bedford. The next competition will take place on the 21st., for a cash prize of one guinea given by Mr. W. Brown and a camp stool given by Mr. Gold.—PIXIE.

WALTONIANS.

February 6th. Mr. Snewing weighed in a very handsome roach, from the Colne, 1 lb. 14½ oz. and a pair of dace, 1 lb. 7 oz. On the 10th, Mr. Hunt had roach and dace 5 lb. 10 oz.; Mr. Starr, roach, 4 lb. 8½ oz.; Mr. Roland, roach, 3 lb. 7½ oz.; Mr. Jukes, one roach, 1 lb. 7 oz., and two small jack; Mr. Morgan, roach, 2 lb. 9½ oz.—A. J. MARRIOTT.

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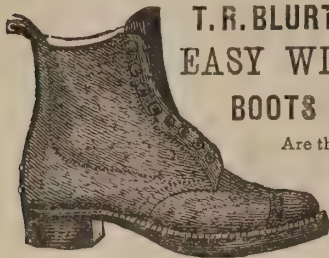
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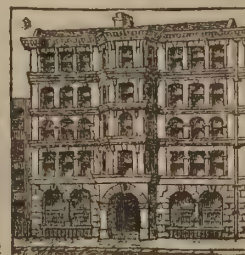
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The Fishing Gazette.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1884.

THE ROD POACHING IN THE WYE FISHERY DISTRICT.

IMPORTANT DECISION.

A MEETING of the Wye Board of Conservators was held at the Shire Hall, Hereford, on Thursday, February 7th. Present:—His Grace the Duke of Beaufort (chairman), Captain Hotchkis, Mr. Perry Lloyd, Mr. Campbell-Bannerman, the Rev. F. J. Aldrich-Blake, Mr. Battiscombe, Mr. J. Williams-Vaughan, jun, Mr. Evans (of Glasbury), Mr. Butler, Mr. Stephens, and Mr. Miller.

Mr. Owen (the clerk) laid before the meeting his replies to the annual queries issued by the Inspector of Salmon Fisheries in reference to the condition of the fisheries in the Wye in 1883. The chief answers were as follow:—(1) There was an increase of the take of salmon and migratory trout, and Mr. Miller, the lessee of the tidal waters, states that the season was an exceptional one, both as regards the number and quality of the salmon, not a single diseased fish being caught in the tidal waters. Migratory trout do not frequent the Wye in any quantities. (2) In consequence of want of returns, I can give no idea of the salmon and migratory trout caught in the district in 1883. (3) In consequence of violent opposition from the Chairman of Radnorshire Quarter Sessions, the Freshwater Fisheries Act has not been adopted. (4) Salmon disease appeared in the Wye about the 12th April, 1883, both adult and the young of salmon being afflicted to a considerable extent. The river at the time was very low, but a moderate flood occurred in the middle of May, and when it cleared off the disease was reported to be decreasing. It disappeared altogether about the middle of June. The disease was confined to the fresh waters. (5) No steps have been taken in 1883 to prevent pollution from mines and factories, or sewage from towns, from entering the river. (6) The income from instrument licenses was £482. (7) Illegal fishing is prevalent in the district to a large extent. The Conservators are unable to employ a sufficient staff of water bailiffs to put a stop to it, owing to the inadequate income of the Board.

Mr. Lloyd wished to draw attention to answer 5, and mentioned that in May, 1883, the Board adopted a resolution authorising the executive committee to take immediate action to give effect to the provisions of the Rivers Pollution Act, and to an order of the county court, calling upon the Corporation of the city of Hereford to prevent their sewage from flowing into the Wye.

The Chairman said that the executive were anxious to comply with the resolution of the Board, but they had no money. He was informed, however, that the Hereford Corporation were doing everything they could to carry out the county court order.

Mr. Stephens, in reply to a question, said that the sewage was very injurious to the river.

Col. Jones-Thomas, of Llanthomas, wrote directing the attention of the Board to a letter and an editorial that appeared a short time ago in the FISHING GAZETTE, in reference to fish poaching on the Wye, Usk, and Lugg. The letter and editorial were read by the chairman, and Mr. Battiscombe advocated the adoption of the

Freshwater Fisheries Act, believing it would check the poaching that was prevalent to a large extent.

The Chairman said he did not see why they should not adopt the Act, which, he believed, would suppress poaching more than anything else.

Mr. Lloyd and Captain Hotchkis favoured the suggestion, which, it was understood, would be considered at the September meeting of the Board.

Mr. Lloyd considering that the Wye was becoming an early river, suggested that rods be permitted to fish before March.

The suggestion was favourably received, and it will be considered by the Board at their meeting in May.

[We are glad to see that there is now some prospect of a better state of things in the Wye Districts. The Duke of Beaufort is not likely to let matters remain *in statu quo*, and all who have the interests of the district generally at heart, should help him vigorously. Few parts of England are so favoured by nature with splendid streams as Herefordshire, and improved fishing would at once cause an increase of well-to-do visitors, to the benefit of the resident community generally.—ED.]

PISCATORIAL SCRAPS.

By I. C. U.

How much longer will the anglers of London be content to allow that splendid six and a quarter miles of their river between the Staines Stone and old Windsor Weir to go entirely unprotected, and at the mercy of the poaching vagabonds of Staines, Egham, and Wraysbury? Where does the good judgment come in of renting inferior pieces of water, many miles apart and difficult to preserve, while these incomparable reaches of the river Thames are left to the tender mercies of the enemies of our sport?

Early on Sunday mornings, before the arrival of the anglers' train, is the favourite time for operations: as all is quiet then, and there is little fear of interruption. I am told that the netting was in full swing last Sunday week, when two anglers, who had gone down overnight, and whose names I have, chanced to put in an early appearance on the bank near Magna Charta, much to the astonishment of a bunch of natives, who immediately dispersed—of course, not forgetting their nets.

Have any of my readers noticed that old, unsuspecting-looking punt, whose home is in the ditch in the "Old River" or "Fleet," and which at times may be discovered locked to a tree a mile further up or down stream, as may best suit the convenience of her numerous owners? This punt has only to be watched, and she will tell such tales as will astonish the innocent angler who believes in this portion of the river being preserved. I have not space to do more in this matter; but surely someone interested in preservation will take notice of it, and propose something which will put a stop to such unpardonable neglect.

Striking the iron while it's hot. The Thames Angling Preservation Society is availing itself of the opportunity offered by the better-late-than-never awakening desire of the City Companies to prove their liberality and usefulness. I have good ground for hope, even beyond my unlimited faith in Mr. Brougham for this branch of his duties, that the appeal will be successful; at any rate our thanks will be due to Messrs. Spreckley and Brougham, be the success of the movement what it may, and we must be pleased to learn that it cannot be a total failure, as the Cloth-workers' Company have already responded with a cheque for ten guineas.

The Waveney and Oulton Fisheries Protection Society is at present labouring under difficulties sufficient to dishearten any but men of pluck, having faith in the work which they have undertaken. Not only have its waters been netted for years to such an extent that angling has almost become a thing of the past, but there is also a want of funds to carry on the warfare against the (at present) triumphant poachers. Unfortunately, there are no angling societies, and but very few anglers in the town to whom the society can appeal; yet the members are not disheartened, and have, much to their credit, determined to form an angling society amongst themselves, thereby hoping to get others to join them. I cannot refrain from adding that were I a resident in or near Beccles, I should feel it an honour to be permitted to join such men in their work.

The chairman of the Putney Angling Society, who is so noted for his perseverance and skill as a jack-fisher, and whom I know to possess a genial disposition and sympathetic heart, has suffered

a very severe loss. Up to a very recent date he enjoyed the best of hearing, and, strange to say, his sudden and entire loss of this faculty occurred while he was fishing for his favourite fish; yet, still more strange, his deafness was not discovered by himself or his friends, but by the owner of the water in which he was unexpectedly discovered fishing.

At the top of the Horton Road, about a mile from Wraysbury station, is a large gravel hole so much grown up with weeds as to require great patience, a good stock of tackle, and considerable experience to secure such monster pike as are from time to time taken from it. The pleasing difficulties of fishing in such a spot may be added to by doing it without an order from the owner, who may turn up at any moment, and if this should prove insufficient to make an angler supremely happy, he may give zest to the whole proceedings by taking possession of the ballast punt and mooring himself in the centre of the pond.

Our Putney friend was in the full enjoyment of all these much-to-be desired advantages, when it pleased the owner to walk this way to church, and it was under these circumstances that he made the distressing discovery that no matter how loudly or long he shouted, or from what position round the pond, no impression could be made on the ears of the angler, who was then as deaf as a post. Poor fellow!

I apologise for having been a little premature in my announcement that Mr. Geen had seen the Under-Secretary of State for the Home Department in respect to the Government Bill for the Amendment of the Freshwater Fisheries Act. I have been favoured with a copy, and I notice that it is a one-clause Bill, and as plain as a pike-staff to those having a knowledge of the requirements of the waters it is intended to benefit, and to which it alone applies. Notwithstanding this, I fear many anglers will misunderstand it, and say that their interests have not been sufficiently guarded. I have already heard wise men—not from the East—grumble in anything but complimentary terms about what they are pleased to call “legalising netting.”

I am considerably behind the fair in the matter of the Good Intent dinner; but I hope I am not too late to refer to some of the most pleasing features of this festive gathering, where over a hundred members sat down, together with some twenty visitors, to enjoy a capital old-fashioned dinner. The president proved himself the right man, and soon disposed of the some half-dozen toasts which were on the list. The following gentlemen responded:—Messrs. Geen, Bonvoisin, Morgan, Crumplen, Murphy, and the vice-chair. Almost every speaker alluded to the all-important question of amalgamation, which Mr. Bonvoisin “hoped would be an accomplished fact before their next annual dinner.” To say that the Good Intent Angling Society shows itself one of the most united societies in London, and that they have a singleness of purpose and a determination to support their chairman and secretary, is only to repeat what has been truly said on numerous occasions. To work for amalgamation by inviting the officers of the three associations to meet together in their room, to push the cause of the Benevolent Society by joining it almost to a man, and to be foremost in every work for the benefit of angling, is considered the duty of every member of the Good Intent. That such societies as this may be successful in their efforts, and remain united and strong, is of great importance, not only to themselves, but also to every London angler.

The Piscatorial Society's smoking concert, which came off on Monday, was a great success, not so much for the numbers present as for the truly artistic rendering of many an old favourite. I must leave the compiling of a list of those who distinguished themselves to a pen having more space for it; but I hope I. C. U.'s song and encore (if either) will not be forgotten, as there need be no fear of its leading to his identification, as almost every singer deserved to be, and was, encored. No one expects radical innovations from “The Piscatorials,” and therefore, on the principle of small mercies being acceptable, I was agreeably surprised to notice that two improvements had been inaugurated. Mr. Lander had very cleverly rearranged the tables so that everyone was enabled to get comfortably seated near his friend or friends, and one half of the committee had gone to the support of the vice-chairman, instead of all of them being, as heretofore, seated round the chair. This good management helped in no small degree to the comfort of those who had the good fortune to be present at this most enjoyable entertainment.

attempt (I am not thinking of Mr. Knight) to prove that twice two could not be four, because two two's and one are five.

I am ready to admit that a considerable amount of latitude must be given to men with such an uphill game on hand; but that they are to be permitted to spread broadcast through the piscatorial press such unjustifiable attacks on anglers as those contained in their first two letters without retort, can scarcely be expected even by themselves. Neither can they hope to retire from the controversy with the coolly-impudent assertion un-noticed, that “their interpretation of the By-law is entirely un-assailed,” while as a fact the very reverse is the case, and all that could be necessary to refute their artful twistings of it was to give them back, as the Editor did time after time, the By-law as printed. So much for the arguments and good taste of these letters; of their cleverness I have written enough, and of their consistency it will be sufficient to give one instance as a sample of the bulk. In their last communication the editor is thanked for his “practical impartiality,” while in a previous one they spoke of his editorship of the FISHING GAZETTE as “elucidating the fact that in journalism, as in other matters, one man may steal a horse from a field, while another may not look over the hedge.” Of their numerous and sweeping compliments which have been distributed right and left, we anglers are not unmindful, and for those very special ones dealt out to myself, I must ask their acceptance of the smiling thanks of I. C. U.

THE PISCATORIAL SOCIETY'S SMOKING CONCERT.

ON Monday last, at Ashley's Hotel, Covent Garden, took place one of those gatherings so welcome to all the members and visitors to this society. It was one of the usual smoking concerts, and the attendance was all that could be desired, the club room being well filled. In accordance with previous announcements, Mr. Foreman Harrison presided, the vice-chair being ably filled by Mr. F. H. Lemann. Amongst the members present were Messrs. Blamey, T. Huggett, Brooker, Goodger, Brown, Robinson, Foreman, T. R. Sachs, Clegg, Adlington, Bennett, Russell, Perelli-Rocco, Harden, Gray, Pattison, Gillatt, and Hill; and among the visitors were Messrs. Heeney, Phillips, Evans, Harrison, Howard, Hill, Rickatson, Gibbs, Claridge, Kendall, Norcott, J. J. Smith, G. Pearson, P. Geen, H. G. Jackson, &c. The concert opened with an overture by Mr. Hill, he having expressly composed it for the occasion; it was received with the greatest applause, Mr. Hill being requested to dedicate the same to the society. Mr. Evans sang “The Message” rather too slowly to be thoroughly effective; Mr. Rickatson gave a recitation entitled “Good News from Ghent” in an artistic manner (applause). Mr. Thomson favoured the company with two comic songs, the first being entitled, “My Mother-in-Law,” and the second, “Four Jolly Good Fellows.” These renderings were simply perfect, and were received in the most enthusiastic manner. Mr. Heeney sang his imitations of Italian opera, which gave as much, perhaps more, pleasure than ever. He was in excellent voice, and whether he attempted the soprano part of Madame Trebelli, the tenor part, or the heavy villain business, his splendid voice was equal to the occasion. At the commencement of the concert the president announced, that as there was abundance of talent present, encores should not be insisted on. Mr. Heeney, however, failed to escape, and therefore sang “Sally in Our Alley.” Earlier in the evening he favoured the company with a new comic song entitled, “Why Should London Wait?” and was highly applauded. Mr. Harry Gibbs recited “Lady Godiva” and “The Ringlet” in a very artistic manner, and was warmly applauded. Mr. Phillips gave his imitations of various insects and animals, and gained an encore by his rendering of “Coming Zu Ze Rye,” à la Madame Liebhardt. Mr. Norcott recited “Nellie's Prayer,” but was too subdued to be audible, otherwise very well rendered. Mr. Hill sang “The Glory of Old England,” and narrowly escaped an encore. Mr. Norman Harrison next sang a comic song called “Is it Likely?”—rendered with all the dash and go usual to this gentleman; he was in fine voice, and was vociferously applauded. Dr. Brunton, who came next, sang that favourite Scotch Ballad, “Annie Laurie,” and was deservedly applauded. Mr. Adlington sang a most appropriate angling song, and subsequently “The Powder Monkey.” (Applause and “Bravo, Adlington!”) The president being compelled to leave at 11.30, Mr. Huggett was requested to take the chair.

Mr. Claridge gave a charming flute solo, which varied the entertainment and gave great satisfaction.

Mr. Foreman sang that good old song, “The Anchor's Weighed,” and Mr. Harden, another member, also sang, both as Piscatorials ought to sing, and were warmly applauded. Mr. Charles Bertram (who has had the honour of performing before members of the Royal Family) favoured the company with an entertainment—viz., a manipulation of playing cards. He certainly appeared to be able to see through the cards. The way in which he named cards taken promiscuously from the pack and held up with their backs towards him, was marvellous; his sleight-of-hand, passing cards imperceptibly from hands to pockets, and vice versa, was also marvellous, and exceedingly entertaining.

The concert was brought to a close by Dr. Brunton singing “Auld Lang Syne,” the whole company joining in the chorus.

During the evening a new member was proposed. The thanks of the society are due to those gentlemen who so kindly volunteered their services, which we hope will be again tendered on a future occasion. Visitors are always welcome.—T. H.

GEORGE JAMES EATON, of Starcholmes, Matlock-Bath, Derbyshire, respectfully invited Noblemen and Gentlemen to try his standard FLIES for the present season. No flies sent or made up but what he himself has proved sure killers. A trial is all that is required from gentlemen who can fish, to prove whether they may be genuine or not. Patronised by some of the best fishermen of the day. All flies dressed on the best Kendal hooks. Prices: Point Flies, 2s. 6d. per Dozen; Dropper Flies, 2s. per Dozen. Orders punctually attended to.—ADVT.

We have now reached the positively-last-appearance stage of the Fennel-Knight letters, and nothing remains but to notice the final contribution, and to draw the curtain over an argument which from first to last was nothing better than a clever man's

THE DEE (ABERDEENSHIRE) FLIES.

(SECOND ARTICLE.)

IN our last article on the Dee and Dee flies we hinted that on this occasion it might be found necessary, for the sake of illustration, to change in imagination either the weather or the water. Now, in regard to these two elemental subjects, the former is certainly the one least likely to be affected by us if our endeavours are applied in a literal manner. To anyone possessing the merest smattering of science the idea of attempting to upset the laws of aerial nature would appear the height of modern absurdity. We therefore leave undisturbed for the present the gentle zephyr and balmy breeze, the gorgeous cloudland and murky sky, and proceed to name and describe a few flies that, in our opinion, are well adapted to the common shades of discolouration which the Dee assumes when western winds, spring freshets, or copious showers lend it additional swiftness in

"Hasting to pay its tribute to the sea,
Like mortal life to meet eternity."

If we bear in mind that the Dee runs almost due east, and that the greater proportion of its upland tributary streams are fed by mountain lochs of eastward outflow, whose waters are generally of a dark brown or peaty colour, owing to the consistency of their surroundings, we can realise with considerable precision how a strong westerly breeze of any duration is likely to affect the size and colour of the river. So, then, it may be easily understood that when a very perceptible increase in its volume is thus occasioned, fishing in general, and fly-fishing in particular, until such time as a subsidence commences, usually proves what we may not inaptly term "labour in vain." Should anglers determine to try their fortune when the river is rising success may in some measure crown their patient efforts if recourse is had to the use of Brown's minnow or the clear Devonshire phantom. Though not personally partial to the use of the minnow, we have sought to obtain information regarding its success under such conditions as are indicated above, and the result has verified our apprehension that reports of a highly favourable nature would prove very limited indeed. For all that, we hold that when the river is filling in consequence of the emptying of the lochs, and anglers notwithstanding on the *qui vive* for sport, either of the lures to which we have referred is more likely than any other to insure the much-wished-for—the eagerly-expected result. Altered circumstances alter the case, and when the water begins to settle down a different story can be told. It is then, and particularly then for spring-fishing, that we would recommend a trial of the yellow eagle. If the angler is fortunate enough to select a hook correct in size—corresponding exactly to the body of water—and fish are on the "take" at all, good results are almost certain to follow. It may not be generally known, though the fact is established, that fish will cultivate the acquaintance of a larger hook in cold than in warm weather. We have seen them enticed with a large fly the one day, while on the next, though only a change of temperature had taken place, nothing larger than half the size of that used on the previous day could be found to stir a fin.

It has been invariably found that angling on the Dee when the water is of a brownish colour is attended with most success if a fly in which orange or yellow preponderates is used. We have verified this statement over and over again in our own experience, and often heard it corroborated by professional anglers second to none on Deeside. A "grey heron," such as described in our last article, is frequently a very fatal lure when the water presents the appearance we have indicated. The "Saturday" tempts very successfully, but it seems to have a greater fascination for kelt than clean fish, and is accordingly but little used. Our ideal "yellow eagle" is made up thus:—Tag silver tinsel; tail, golden pheasant rump feather; body, two turns blue mohair, and two turns claret mohair; silver tinsel and gold twist; a full deep yellow eagle hackle well down body; teal at shoulder; turkey wing, black and white distinct bars; black head. An eagle of this description is, as we have said, the fly to which we would first give a trial under certain circumstances. In the end of April and in May, the "Gordon," and "Childer," suit well, and by using them about that season anglers often obtain first-class sport. It should be noted, however, that the former ought to be used when the light is strong; the latter when it is duller, and toward evening.

Before we begin to enlarge upon the flies most in favour under certain other conditions of "wind and tide" than heretofore noticed, it may be as well to give a description of the ones left over in our last article because of insufficient space. These appear to be the "Balmoral," "Glentanar," "Tartan," "Grey Eagle," and "White Eagle." The Eagles are to the patterns which we have found suited best—the former a cloudy, the latter a cloudless evening sky. In proceeding, according to the order indicated above, the "Balmoral" claims our notice first.

"Balmoral": tag, silver tinsel and orange floss; tail, a topping and fibres of golden pheasant tippet; body, three turns green, and two turns black mohair; silver tinsel and gold twist, black heron hackle well down body; jungle cock feather on either cheek; dark brown Turkey wing with black tips; black head. "Glentanar": tag, gold tinsel; tail, fibres of golden pheasant tippet; body, orange-red and blue mohair in equal proportion—blue at head, red in the centre and yellow beside tag; gold tinsel and silver twist; black heron hackle; teal at shoulder; orange in body well picked out; red turkey wings; black head. "Tartan": tag, silver tinsel; tail, red cock feather; body, one turn orange, two turns blue, and three turns claret mohair; silver tinsel, broad; grey heron hackle (sparingly) down body; teal at shoulder; distinctly marked black and white turkey wings; black head. "Grey Eagle": tag, silver tinsel; tail, golden pheasant rump feather; body, black mohair well picked out; broad silver

tinsel; grey eagle hackle; teal at shoulder; mottled turkey wing, brownish tinge; black head. "White Eagle": tag, silver tinsel; tail, golden pheasant rump feather; body, red and blue mohair in equal proportions—blue nearest head; silver tinsel, broad; white eagle down for hackle—a considerable quantity; teal at shoulder; black and white turkey wing; black head. Milne, Aberdeen; Blacklaws, Kincardine O'Neil; and Smith, Ballater, supply well-tied patterns of all the flies we have enumerated. If we may recur to the subject of angling on the Dee when the river is swollen by the emptyings of the lochs, we would suggest that the "Yellow Eagle" should be used during the whole of the first day after the subsidence sets in; on the second day it should be alternated with the "Grey Heron," or perhaps the "Silver Grey," if the river has perceptibly decreased in volume. When the shades of evening are gathering around, a "White Eagle," or a larger size of a "Yellow Eagle" than that used during the day, ought to be the last thing offered if a natural minnow is not forthcoming.

In our next and concluding article on spring fishing and flies, we will refer to and describe such flies as are most used when the river is high, either in consequence of rain, or the melting of snow on Lochnagar, Cairngorm, Morven, Ben Macdhui, Benaburd, Mont Keen, and Braeriach, &c. W. M.

P.S.—We are open to receive from fishing tackle makers and others, for inspection and mention in our subsequent articles, any patterns of flies (with notes regarding them) that have proved good killers on the Dee during the spring months. These will be returned (if wished) without undue delay. Of course it must be understood that we mean flies other than those already referred to in these articles.

SCOTCH RIVER REPORTS.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20.

LOCH TAY.—The weather still continues unfavourable for really good sport, there being cold east winds, with occasional showers of snow.

KILLIN HOTEL WATER.—On Tuesday, Mr. Crabbe, Edinburgh, had a fish of 25 lb., and Mr. Broad one of 23 lb.

LOCHAY HOTEL WATER.—On Monday Mr. Russell, Paisley, killed a fish of 19 lb.; and on Tuesday Mr. Gourlay, Glasgow, had two fish of 16 lb. and 13 lb.

ARDEONAIG HOTEL WATER.—The following are the takes on the Ardeonaig Hotel water for the second week:—Mr. Wardle, Leeds, three fish, weighing 14, 24, and 16 lb. respectively. Mr. Fielden, Leeds, two fish, weighing 21 and 19 lb. respectively.

KENMORE HOTEL WATER.—On Tuesday Captain Low, London, had two salmon, 24 and 19 lb.; Mr. Lloyd, Liverpool, one, 12 lb.; Mr. F. Bamford, London, one, 17 lb.

THE TAY.—Neither the weather nor the river are in the best condition for successful angling—the wind being cold, with showers of snow, sleet, or rain, and the water still high and discoloured.

DALGUISE.—Mr. Scotland, of Scotland's Hotel, Pitlochry, fished this water on Tuesday, and landed three beautiful fish, weighing respectively 22, 17, and 17 lb. One of the 17-pounders, which was caught with black dog fly, was terribly wild, and ran 200 yards down the river before he was brought to bank. All the fish were beautiful newly-run salmon. Mr. Scotland also landed a kelt.

BIERNAM HOTEL WATER.—On Monday Mr. G. Pople was out a few hours, and although the water was out of condition, he killed a fine fish of 11 lb.

ISLA MOUTH.—On Tuesday Mr. Kelsall killed a fish of 17 lb., and landed 13 kelt.

BENCHILL.—On Tuesday Sir William Elliott killed a fish of 20 lb.

CALLANDER.—Since last report, the following salmon have been landed:—Mr. B. B. Hamilton has had two fish, 19 lb. and 17 lb.; Mr. D. G. Robertson, of East Mains, one, 30 lb., from the Torrie water; Mr. John Anderson, sen., two, on Friday, from the Lubnaig River, 23 and 14 lb.; and on Saturday, one from the same water of 14 lb. Mr. John Anderson, jun., on Friday, from the Vennacher River, near Gartchonzie Bridge, two, 20 and 16 lb.; and on the same day, Mr. Robert M'Nab (the Chief), from the Teith, one of 20 lb.; and Mr. J. Henderson, one of 15 lb., also from the Teith; and on Saturday, Mr. Henderson had one of 20 lb. from the Lubnaig, and Mr. Wilkie also one of 20 lb. from the river. Mrs. Tress's gardener landed two from the Leny of 14 and 16 lb.

LOCH ARD.—The fishing was opened on this loch last week. Several good takes have been got. Mr. Stevenson, yr. of Boquhan, was out last Friday, and caught 27 fine trout, all in good condition. On Thursday last, on this loch, Mr. Kerr killed 25 trout, weighing 11½ lb. Mr. M'Laren had four, and another angler had eight trout. On Friday Mr. Stevenson secured a splendid basket of 27 trout, and on Saturday the same gentleman killed 15 nice trout.

STRATHYRE.—On Monday Mr. Jas. Irvine, gamekeeper, killed a salmon on the River Balvaig, weighing 17 lb.

THE LYON.—On the Glenlyon House water Colonel Campbell's keeper, on the 14th, caught a salmon of 17 lb.; on the 15th, three salmon, weighing respectively 17, 14, and 13 lb.

LOCH LUBNAIG.—The weather still continues very stormy and unfavourable for fishing. On Monday, Mr. Buchanan, Ruinacraig, killed a salmon weighing 17 lb. River getting into good order now.—P. D. MALLOCH, Perth.

THE ST. NEOT'S DEFENCE FUND.

The final committee meeting will take place on Wednesday evening next, February 27th, at nine o'clock, at the Ruston Arms, Ruston Street, New North Road, to wind up the accounts. Secretaries will oblige by sending all moneys collected by that night to the hon. sec., J. WAINWRIGHT.

P.S.—Any overplus to be handed over to the Anglers' Benevolent Society.

CLUB REPORTS.

AMICABLE BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

Twenty of the members tried the Black Pool, at the Rye House Water, on the 17th inst.; but, owing to the wind being very high and in their faces, they removed below to the Fish and Eels, where Mr. Bond captured one dace, 6½ oz., the only fish caught during the day in the match. The remaining seven prizes will be fished for from Ratty's Weir to St. Margaret's Bridge. Mr. Harding, roach and dace, 1 lb. 10 oz.; Mr. Dwelley, jack, 2 lb. 9 oz., roach, 1½ lb., perch, one 2 lb. and one 1 lb.—J. WORLEDGE.

ANGLERS' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

Since my last report I beg to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following annual subscriptions:—£5 from T. Spreckley (president of the society), £1 1s. from C. P. Wheatstone (Stanley Anglers), 5s. from M. H. Rodell, and £1 from the donation box of the Dalston Angling Society.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

BRIGHTON ANGLERS' ASSOCIATION.

We had a fair muster at the quarterly meeting some few days ago, when the report and balance sheet were very favourably received, showing that this association still continues to flourish, the balance in hand being about £10. The annual dinner, arranged for the 6th, has unavoidably been postponed through the illness of our club manager. On the 17th a competition took place in the river Ouse for prizes offered by the association. Mr. Alfred White took a jack scaling 5 lb., thus securing first prize, and Mr. Geo. Saunders with another of 2 lb. took second prize. The water was in very good condition considering the rough weather of late. We have our last competition of the season on Monday, March 3rd. The Great Yarmouth Piscatorial Society has applied to us for assistance in defraying the law expenses incurred by them in fighting for their rights as to fishing in the Sounds. I see by your reports they are meeting with very good response from several of your London societies, and hope that we shall be able to give our mite towards such a good cause.—A. H. DOLTON, hon. sec.

CITY OF LONDON ANGLING SOCIETY.

The following members weighed in on the 17th, Mr. Crouch, a good show of dace from Shepperton; Mr. Chambers, roach and dace from Amberley, and Mr. Castell, roach, dace, and gudgeon from the Thames at Wraysbury, the heaviest roach 14 oz.

COBDEN ANGLING SOCIETY.

There was a good attendance of members at our club room on the 17th inst. to witness the weighing in of fish for the prizes given by Messrs. Maples, Stead, and Giles. The trays of fish were completely filled, as nearly every member that took part in the match weighed in something. The first prize was taken by Mr. Evans with 5 lb. of roach and dace; Mr. Sharland took second with a little over 4 lb., and Mr. Baker third, with a nice lot of dace and roach. Messrs. Salmon, Stead, Jenkins, and Fomison also had a very fair show of roach, dace, chub, and perch, and the weights in each instance were almost identical.—C. REEVES, sec.

DALSTON ANGLING SOCIETY.

On the 17th instant we had a very good show of roach and chub. On the 24th, the next pegged-down match will take place at Harlow. Members to go down by 8 o'clock from Liverpool Street.—S. MALBY, sec.

GLOUCESTER MUTUAL ANGLING CLUB.

The first anniversary dinner of this club took place at the Pelican Inn, Gloucester, on Thursday, the 7th inst. The president, Mr. William Luker, presided, supported by the vice-president, Mr. Tom Beach. After partaking and doing ample justice to the good things which was most effectively put upon the table by host Gyde—and drinking the health of our most gracious Sovereign, the chairman gave the toast of the evening, "Success to the Gloucester Mutual Angling Club," and in doing so, remarked that though they were but a young society, they mustered thirty members, and he was sorry to see so many absent. During their first year they had gone on very quietly, but satisfactorily. The members had got the advantage of travelling by rail to a specified number of stations at a greatly reduced rate; each one of them had been provided, at a cost of 2s. 6d. each to the club, with a fishing ticket to angle in private waters, of which they had the choice of three, and they were all entitled to a free annual dinner, all for the yearly subscription of 10s. He coupled with the toast the name of the hon. sec., Mr. J. H. Barnes, who responded on behalf of the club. This was really the finish of the 1883 season, and first general meeting of 1884, so we then appointed the officers for the ensuing season. Mr. John Wood was elected president, Mr. W. Boulton, vice-president, and, after a little persuasion, the secretaryship was accepted by your humble servant.—W. LUKER.

GOOD INTENT ANGLING SOCIETY.

Our annual supper took place on the 12th inst., when over 100 members sat down to a capital repast, and every one praised our worthy hostess's efforts. But I will not trespass on your valuable space, as I should be taking it out of more able hands—only to say there was a collection at the close, and £3 3s. was handed over to Mr. Geen on behalf of the Anglers' Benevolent Society. There was a good show of fish at our club on the 17th—G. Bates, 12 lb. of good dace; Mr. Hewett, 10 lb. of dace; Mr. Gadbury, two pretty jack; Mr. Bell, roach; Mr. Maybury, roach and dace; Mr. W. Hughes, roach. Our members fish at Broxbourne on the 2nd March for twelve prizes—roam of water. Our West Central District return visit will take place on Monday, March 3rd next. There will be a host of talent, when we hope to meet all our brother anglers who can make it convenient to attend.—R. MURPHY.

GREAT YARMOUTH PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

This society met as usual on Monday, and it was resolved not to publish the list of subscribers of Yarmouth in full in the London papers, but only those who reside in London and the provinces; but, as, I am pleased to say, the subscribers have not yet stopped, it will be as well to let the matter rest for a little time longer, especially as the judges are off circuit, which will bring our case on earlier than was expected a short time since. I heard, upon very good authority, that our ledgering friends have sent some heavy hampers of jack to Manchester, not caught in Mr. Jardine's or Mr. Sachs' method, by rod and line, but by the system that, if I cannot stop it, I will try and shame them from

doing so mean and paltry an act, if possible. I am pleased to record the following, received since our last report to you:—

	£	s.	d.
Nottingham Association of Anglers	5	0	0
Mr. G. Grimes, 33, Whitechapel Road ..	1	1	0
" " Collection	1	17	0
Wellington Society, Walworth	0	10	0
Anchor and Hope Society, Kent Road ..	0	6	7

—JAMES LARK, hon. sec.

P.S.—Since report was sent, I find that riparian owners have employed poachers on the Sounds. Fish are now being sent to the provinces.

GRESHAM ANGLING SOCIETY.

Tuesday evening last was devoted to a conversazione instead of the ordinary business. Under the able management of Captain Alfred and Mr. Winterbottom, the whole of the preliminary arrangements had been carried to a most successful conclusion. Dr. Lloyd occupied the chair in a very able manner. There was a very large attendance of members and friends, and a programme of some five-and-twenty items was listened to with every mark of attention and pleasure. With everyone striving to do their best it is difficult to single out any one for individual praise; but mention must certainly be made of the admirable singing of Miss Florence Moore and Mrs. Atkins, the recitations of Mr. Romain Walker, and the instrumental performance of Mr. B. A. Parker; whilst Mr. Harding's rendering of "Sergeant Buzfuz," is too well known to require praising. Besides Mr. Sam Wright, whose humorous songs left nothing to be desired, the remainder of the programme was contributed by Messrs. Winterbottom and Brown, pianists, and Messrs. Aveling, Bokenham, Cartwright, Pelham, Roof, Hartley, Frank Austin, and Syckelmoore. Mr. H. J. Williams was also very successful with his recitation, "The Captain's Boy." Votes of thanks to Messrs. Winterbottom and Captain Alfred for organising the conversazione, to the chairman for his able management of the business of the evening, and to the performers who had kindly given their services, were passed and carried by acclamation, and a highly pleasant evening was brought to a close with the "National Anthem."

HEARTS OF OAK ANGLING SOCIETY.

The shows of fish on the 10th inst. were not very grand, the following being the best:—Messrs. A. Fish, 7 lb. 10½ oz. roach; Ford, 3 lb. 4½ oz.; Pleydell, jun., 1 lb. 14½ oz.; Hosper, 8 oz.; Pleydell, sen., 6½ oz. The prizes of the above society were distributed last Monday evening, when a very pleasant time was spent, and many prizes given, which we hope to have still further increased. Prizes are given by Messrs. Jackson, Crouch, (3 prizes), Rider, Williams, Pleydell sen., Hooper, Pleydell jun., Walker, C. Layton, Parker, (2 prizes), B. Jones.—C. MILLER.

HOXTON BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

A few members were out on the 17th inst., and a fair show of roach, perch, and jack adorned the trays. On the 24th, the members will fish for several valuable prizes at the Rye House. Jack fishing closes in the River Lea the last day in February.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

IZAACK WALTON ANGLING SOCIETY.

The members will compete for three special prizes on the 24th inst., on the following conditions, viz.:—All fish weigh according to the rules of the society. Competitors to choose their own waters; nothing under 8 oz. to take a prize. No competitors to leave London before the morning of the competition. Mr. F. A. Hawthorn will give a prize, conditions as follows:—All fish weigh. Competitors can weigh in on any day commencing from the 24th inst., until the end of the season. Nothing under 1 lb. can be weighed at any time for this prize. Mr. Hawthorn has had some very nice chub this week; Mr. W. H. Meecham had jack; Mr. B. Crook, roach and perch; Mr. A. Bass, roach.

LINCOLN ANGLING SOCIETY.

Our members went out on the 17th inst., but unfortunately came home with empty bags. We were thinking of giving up in despair, when our one-armed champion, Mr. Bingley, came in the room, from Marlow, with a few, but fine, roach and perch, weighing 3½ lb., in beautiful condition. Our first annual supper takes place on 17th March.—F. W. TOWN, sec.

NORTH-WESTERN ANGLING SOCIETY.

On the 17th inst. the members of this society were out in force, but the easterly wind again prevented them filling the trays in the evening. Messrs. Underwood, W. Roxbee, and Holmes, roach; Mr. R. Marshall, dace; Mr. Hillier, jack.—W. HILLIER, sec.

PECKHAM BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

The match fished on the 17th by the members of the above club was a poor affair, only four of the six prizes being won, Messrs. Bignall, Phipps, Durant, and Furnes finishing in the order named. Our President was among the roach on Wednesday last; thirty-three fish weighing 28 lb., the largest 1 lb. 13 oz. They were very much admired, and the largest sent to Meedham, and will be added to Mr. Brodie's already numerous collection. The annual dinner will take place on Tuesday, March 25th. Only four of our members will compete in the match amongst the South London clubs on the 24th at Staines. The mention of a peg-down match causes as much alarm among our members as a charge of Arabs does amongst the Egyptian troops.—GADFLY.

PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

During the past week, Mr. Harden, fishing with a friend one day in private water, captured ten pike, the largest weighing 9 lb. Mr. Harden the following day took one good fish (13 lb.) in public waters. All taken spinning. Mr. Lemann presented a very fine etching in frame, by Frank Peyton, the subject being a human exhibition, in which the fish were visitors and the human race in tanks, reversing the order of things at the late Fisheries Exhibition. Mr. Huggett showed some fine roach from public waters. Mr. E. J. Bromley was proposed as a new member by Dr. Brunton, and seconded by Mr. Norman Harrison. Mr. E. Walker is on the warpath at Ringwood. The friends of the society are particularly requested to make early application for tickets for the annual dinner, which takes place on the 5th March next, at the Holborn Restaurant, and is expected to be a great success.—T. H.

PORTSMOUTH WALTONIAN ANGLING SOCIETY.

The long-anticipated paper on "Fly-fishing" was read by Capt. Hill at the club room on the 31st ult. There was a large attendance of members, who thoroughly enjoyed the paper. Capt. Hill, being an experienced fly-fisher, gave

several practical illustrations in casting, tying, and the usual *modus operandi* in the capture of trout in a sportsmanlike manner. In conclusion, he enumerated the various flies that should be used during the season. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded him. Mr. J. S. Dyer gives the next paper, entitled "The Salmon: its History, Culture, and Capture." On the 7th inst. there was a competition at Chichester for prizes—the silver medal of the club and a money prize. The former was won by Mr. J. Buck (the president), with two fine perch, weighing 2 lb. 10 oz. and 1 lb. 6 oz. each, taken at Donnington on the canal, Mr. Radigue taking the second with roach. In the evening of the same day the second smoking concert came off with the usual success. There was on the occasion a very large muster of members and their friends, who spent a most agreeable time of it. Mr. H. Lane again obliged with two of his favourite ballads. Mr. B. Adams gave a capital recitation entitled "The Quaker at a Naval Engagement." A capital programme was gone through, the evening being presided over by Mr. J. S. Dyer.—DAGGERWOOD.

PRINCE OF WALES ANGLING SOCIETY.

A gentleman on getting out of the 8.50 train at Westbourne Park station on Sunday, Feb. 17, did take by mistake his wrong lot of rods. If he would kindly return the same to 9, Allsop Mews, Dorset Square, it would be taken as a great favour, as the gentleman can have the rods which he left in return.—W. LEE.

RICHMOND PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

The winter dinner of this flourishing society took place at the Station Hotel, Richmond, on the evening of the 14th inst., when there was a large attendance, and everything passed off most successfully. Mr. A. J. Little, the chairman of the society, presided, and the vice-chairs were occupied by Mr. H. Dickinson and Mr. H. B. Terrill. Amongst others who were present were—Major Bull (vice-president), Mr. Spreckley and Mr. Brougham (president and secretary of the Thames Angling Preservation Society), Mr. Marston (Editor of the *FISHING GAZETTE*), Mr. J. P. Wheeldon (late of *Bell's Life*), Mr. Temple (*Sporting and Dramatic News*), and Messrs. W. Abbott, F. A. Crew, H. Davis, Donnelly, A. E. Downs, East, T. Field, Fricker, Gaynor (curator), Griffiths, Grünhold, F. Hampton, Heasler, G. H. Hester (hon. secretary), J. Houghton, J. Johnson, W. Johnson, Little, jun., J. M. Lucas, Matthews, J. Powell, E. V. Powell, G. C. Rowland, Scantlebury, Turner, B. Wood, &c. The dinner, which was served in the new banquetting room, reflected the highest credit upon Mr. Munro's establishment, and the songs and speeches which followed were above the average excellence. The chairman, in proposing "The Richmond Piscatorial Society," said that at the end of the year they had 96 members, and since then the number had increased. Everything had been paid for, and they had only overrun their account to the extent of half-a-sovereign. They had some influential members, including their vice-president, Major Bull, who was chairman of the Richmond Vestry; Mr. Spreckley, the president of the Thames Angling Preservation Society; Mr. Nuthall, the Mayor of Kingston, who had hoped to have been able to attend that dinner; and many others whom he could name. Five of their members were honorary river-keepers in connection with the Thames Angling Preservation Society, to which they subscribed five guineas last year, besides three guineas towards the cost of netting the reservoirs. They were never backward in subscribing to any object worthy of help from an angler's point of view. They had recently taken two silver medals—one at the International Fisheries Exhibition and the other at Edinburgh—and they had amongst them a champion angler in the person of Mr. E. V. Powell. He had much pleasure in submitting the toast, and in expressing the hope that they would all rally round the society, and make it increasingly successful. Mr. Taman afterwards proposed "The Thames Angling Preservation Society." He remarked upon the influential support which that society received, and commended its useful work to the consideration of every angler. He expressed his surprise that out of about 170 angling societies in the neighbourhood of London, only 16 subscribed to its funds. He also referred to the destruction of fish and spawn that had taken place through the steam launches, illegal fishing, and illegal netting, and added that the society was doing much to mitigate these evils and protect the rights of anglers. In alluding to the new By-laws, he expressed the hope that something might be done to get rid of netting below Richmond Bridge. He thought they needed more unity amongst anglers, and it would be a good thing if they had some representative body, as a sort of anglers' parliament, to consider any important matters that might crop up. Mr. Spreckley, whose name was coupled with the toast, denied that there was any illegal netting now going on. The fishermen who used nets below Richmond Bridge were acting within their legal rights; it was their living, and it could not be taken away from them without compensation. The Thames Conservators were prepared to do anything in their power to help the anglers; it was five or six riparian owners who caused the difficulties with which they had to contend. Very few of them knew how much was expended upon the river-keepers. Only £400 was stated in their report, but it was actually £600 or £700. The anglers, however, did not give £200. About £200 was given by men who never wetted a line, and £200 or £300 by someone else. They had secured some very satisfactory convictions for illegal practices lately, and a great deal had been done in the way of educating the anglers. Ten years ago many of them looked upon all fish as fish, whether 1 inch or 6 inches long, but now they were ashamed to take undersized fish. In fact, they were becoming sportsmen. Mr. Lucas asked whether the Thames Angling Preservation Society had considered the probable effects upon the fish of the proposed sewage works at Mortlake, where large quantities of chemicals would be discharged into the river, killing the fish. Mr. Spreckley said the matter would receive consideration. Mr. Turner proposed "The Visitors." After expressing his gratification at that large assembly, presided over by their new chairman, whom they delighted to honour, he said they were glad to see the visitors, and to introduce them to the pleasures which the members of the society enjoyed. Mr. Temple responded. Mr. H. Dickinson proposed the health of the chairman, a toast which was most heartily received. Mr. Little, in responding, said he was sorry to miss the face of Mr. Clench, who was a most able chairman throughout the time that he held that office. He thanked them for electing him to be their chairman, and promised to do his best to promote the interest of the society. Mr. Spreckley proposed "Kindred Societies," coupling with the toast the name of Mr. Geen, president of the West Central Association of Angling Clubs, who had done much valuable work for the poor anglers of London.—Mr. Geen responded, referring to a Bill which was to be brought before Parliament for second reading that night, and which professed to amend the Mundella Act. It proposed to give conservators power to regulate the width of the meshes of nets used on the rivers under their jurisdiction, but laid it down that they should not cause fishermen to use a mesh of more than

two inches. That would override the Thames Conservancy By-laws, which required the mesh to be not less than three inches. He had done what he could to get the Bill amended, and with considerable success. The remaining toasts were "The Vice-Chairmen," proposed by Mr. E. V. Powell, and duly responded to by Messrs. Dickinson and Terrill. "The Officers of the Society," proposed by the Chairman, and acknowledged by Mr. Terrill; and "The Press," proposed by the Chairman, and coupled with the names of Mr. Marston (*FISHING GAZETTE*), Mr. Dimpleby (*Richmond and Twickenham Times*), and Mr. Wheeldon, each of whom responded. A number of songs followed, and the proceedings closed at twelve o'clock.—*Richmond and Twickenham Times*.

[If the gentleman who, after this dinner, walked off with an umbrella in mistake, and forgot to leave his own behind, will return it to the Editor of this paper, the Editor will be much obliged.]

RODNEY PISCATORIALS.

On the 17th Mr. Grant led the way with roach and dace from Shepperton. Mr. Arnsby had some sport at Tottenham. Messrs. Phillips and Liversage dropped down the Mole this side of Reigate: they found some sport, but it was rather small. I think they got a good three months before time. Members entered for the South London United competition are informed that seventy-three tickets have been taken up, which have been divided into seven prizes. Members start by the first train leaving Waterloo on the morning of the 24th inst. On reaching Staines make for the other side of Staines Bridge, where the Committee will give all information as to the centre of the swims marked out, which will commence at the Railway Bridge, pass up under the Town Bridge up stream. Members are hereby informed that all perch taken in the Thames must measure eight inches, and not seven inches, as stated on the card issued by W. A. L. and P. Anglers, at the commencement of this season, 1883 and 1884.—PIXIE.

ROYAL GEORGE ANGLING SOCIETY.

Most of our members went out on the 17th inst., but those who fished the tidal waters came off best. Many went further, but fared very much the worse. Mr. Trotter weighed in dace, so did Messrs. Hughes, Sinclair, Lloyd, Hewett, and others, but nothing like their usual takes. Our members have decided to have a day out together—viz., the last Sunday of the season, the spot selected being Bourn End. I trust all will end happily, as there are some good prizes to be fished for. We expect a good muster, and among them will be—W. H. R.

SECOND SURREY.

The members of this society had a competition at Windsor on the 17th. Mr. George came first, with some nice plump roach; Mr. Smallwood, second, with roach; Mr. Parks, third, with perch. Mr. Howe had a nice lot of dace, all above the Thames standard; but the conditions of the competition, and the rules of the society prevented him and several other gentlemen from taking any prizes.—PIXIE.

SOCIABLE BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

Our members visited Broxbourne on the 17th inst. to fish a pegged down match for a series of four prizes. Mr. W. Morris won first prize with roach, this being the only prize taken. Messrs. J. Taylor and G. Hall weighed in roach.—W. S. W.

SOUTH-EASTERN ANGLING SOCIETY.

On the 17th, a good meeting of our members, as also members of the Excelsior, with about a dozen visitors. This was the day of our match I have spoken of between a member of the Excelsior and South-Eastern for £5 a side, and was won by our member, Mr. J. Smith, jun., with the notoriously low score of one roach, 3½ oz. A couple of gentlemen from the Walworth Waltonians were amongst our visitors—Messrs. Piolaine and Beale. Wednesday, a first-class meeting was held; the members were full of business—no time for harmony on this occasion. Members are respectfully notified to be on the alert for March 7th—our day for the outing, for there are some good prizes offered by the following members:—Host Frith, Mr. Smith, Mr. Allard, and Mr. Gold. One candidate proposed. Election on the 27th inst. Several gentlemen in the neighbourhood have signified their intention of joining us the coming season.—F. H. H. WESTON, secretary.

STOKE NEWINGTON ANGLING SOCIETY.

On the 10th inst., Mr. W. Webb had one jack, 3 lb. 11 oz., saving us from a blank. On the 17th, Mr. C. F. Robinson exhibited roach, dace, and perch, and Mr. Sam Wilkinson one jack. Mr. E. Machin gives a half-guinea prize for the heaviest gross-weight of fish weighed in to the end of season.—THOS. GRETTON.

UNITED LONDON FISHERIES SOCIETY.

The improved hatching box presented by Mr. J. C. Murray (the chairman) will be placed in the stream at the back of the Red Lion, St. Margaret's, at the bottom of the village, three minutes' walk from Great Eastern Railway Station, and may be seen on application. The Waltham Fishery will be closed for all fishing from March 1st to July 1st, in accordance with the agreement.—R. GHURNEY.

WELLINGTON ANGLING SOCIETY.

The usual weekly meeting was held on Wednesday evening last. After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and confirmed, the secretary reported that 10s. had been forwarded to Mr. Lark, of Great Yarmouth, in aid of the fund now being raised for securing the right of fishing at Heigham Sounds. The names of six members were taken, who promised to represent the society at the South London Tournament on the 24th inst. It was decided to hold a Smoking Concert on Monday, the 10th March next. Any members of angling societies who may make it convenient to give us a look in will be cordially welcomed. Several gentlemen from the Excelsior having given us a call, we wound up with some good songs and recitations. Messrs. Wright, Richardson, and Crocker had some fair sport at Shepperton on the 17th, producing a good show of roach and perch.—W. W. ALEXANDER, sec.

WEST GREEN ANGLING SOCIETY.

Mr. C. Coleman's prize for jack was taken by Mr. Guyver on the 17th inst. On the 24th inst. Mr. Paul Magnus prizes of 15s. and 5s. are to be fished for—go where you please—start any time after midnight.—J. GUYVER, sec.

SALMON & TROUT-FISHING.

CHARLES FARLOW & Co.,
191, STRAND,

(Opposite St. Clement Dane's, London),

MANUFACTURERS OF FIRST-CLASS RODS AND TACKLE,
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IMPROVED FOLDING TROUT LANDING NETS (Very Light),

NEW PATENT LEVER WINCH (can be regulated to any stiffness at will)

BROWN'S PHANTOM MINNOWS.

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OF EVERY DESCRIPTION OF FISHING TACKLE,

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Celebrated Floating May Flies, Green & Grey Drakes.

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PRICE 21s.,

The enormous and increasing demand for which is a sufficient guarantee for the high
estimation in which they are held by the leading anglers of the day.All Standard Flies ordered, or dressed correct to pattern, will be despatched by return of
post.

N.B.—NO CONNECTION WITH ANY OTHER PERSONS ASSUMING THE SAME NAME.

"Art, enpire, earth itself, to change are doomed."—THE HERMIT.

EXCHANGE.

Things Wanted—to BUY, to SELL, or to EXCHANGE.

N.B.—We take no responsibility whatever in connection with advertisements inserted
in this or other parts of this paper; but beg our readers to expose any case of im-
position. The prices for inserting advertisements in this "EXCHANGE"
Column are 6d. per line for one, or 4d. per line for more than one insertion.
Address Manager, FISHING GAZETTE, 12 and 13, Fetter Lane, London, and send
stamps with the order, or the advertisement cannot be inserted.FOR SALE.—Eggs from blue hens mated with pure pile game cock, to breed
"honeydun" and "rusty blue" chickens. 3s. 6d. per sitting of thirteen. —S. Howarth,
184, Station Road, Burton-on Trent. Maker of the Detached Bodied Duns.WANTED.—Particulars and prices of Secondhand Books on Angling and Fish Culture.
Must be in good condition.—Address Editor, FISHING GAZETTE, 12 and 13, Fetter Lane,
London, E.C.FOR SALE.—A 14ft mottled cane general rod, by Bowness; used only three times;
cost 50s., price £7. M. E. Hoshen, 49, Cazenove Road, Stoke Newington, N.A few boxes of very choice Havana Cigars, 1875 Tobacco. 10s. per box of 50. Car-
riage Free. Send P.O.—E. T. Chase, 11, Portsea Place, W.WANTED.—A large quantity of Starling wings at once, clean and cheap; also laud-
rail, blackbird, and other wings.—Apply G. Holland, 4, Cooke Street, Failsforth, near
Manchester.

THE INFLUENCE OF THE PRESS.

THE influence of the Press of this country is recognised at almost every festive gathering which partakes of a public character. And notwithstanding that the toast of the Press is generally placed at the bottom of the list, and that it is invariably proposed at a late period of the evening's proceedings—a circumstance which frequently suggests a thought of insincerity—there is in the mere fact of the toast an acknowledgment of the great influence exercised by newspapers. A little over a hundred years has alone been needed to build up this institution. Its growth has been rapid; it was planted in virgin soil; and its extensiveness and solidity at the present day form the theme of the many after-dinner utterances. The rapidity of its growth will be best shown by figures, and from these the extent of the power of the Press may be gauged.

Before the year 1700 there were only five newspapers in existence. 74 were established during the succeeding hundred years, 33 from 1800 to 1810, 27 during the ten years ended 1820; 44 from 1821-30; 96 from 1831-40; 130, 1841-50; 426, 1851-60; 411, 1861-70; 632, 1871-80; and 387, 1881-83. These statistics are taken from May's British and Irish Press Guide for 1884, and refer only to existing newspapers which have been uninterruptedly issued since their establishment. The compiler of this useful Guide places the number of newspapers now in existence at 2,280.

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RIVER REPORTS.

TIME OF HIGH WATER IN THE THAMES.

To find the time of high water in the Thames at any of the following places to the time of high water at London Bridge (given below).

	30 minutes for Chelsea.
Add	40 " Putney.
	45 " Hammersmith.
	50 " Barnes.
	55 " Kew.
	75 " Richmond.
	80 " Twickenham.
	85 " Teddington.

Example:—If it is high water at 2 o'clock at London Bridge, it will be high water at Teddington about 3.25, or eighty-five minutes later; but it must be remembered that a strong wind accelerates or retards the tide very much.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.

		Morning.	Afternoon.
For Saturday, February 23 ..	11.28 ..	12.0 ..	
Sunday, " 24 ..	12.1 ..	12.30 ..	
Monday, " 25 ..	12.55 ..	1.18 ..	
Tuesday, " 26 ..	1.39 ..	1.59 ..	
Wednesday, " 27 ..	2.17 ..	2.35 ..	
Thursday, " 28 ..	2.55 ..	3.13 ..	
Friday, " 29 ..	3.32 ..	3.51 ..	

New Moon, February 26. Probable High Tide, February 29.

Shrove-Tuesday Feb. 26.
Ash-Wednesday Feb. 27.

THE LOWER THAMES.

GENERAL REMARKS.

There does not appear to be much Thames news this week beyond the fact that the water is now in good condition, and anglers do not avail themselves of the chance of getting fish even when they are on the feed, and the fishermen at a standstill for want of employment. A postcard comes from Mr. W. Jones, the piscatorial proprietor of the Swan Hotel, Staines: "Chub well on; took myself yesterday, in three hours, seven fish weighing 13½ lb." This is business, and the anglers should take some notice of it. The one great item of this week comes from Walton. It runs as follows: "George Hone has caught a female carp weighing 10 lb. He kept it for a couple of days for one of his customers (Mr. A. Mackrill) to see, who weighed it, and it then made 9½ lb. It was then returned to the river in the carp swim in Walton Deep.

Richmond.

Christopher Brown, in four days, 20 lb. of roach and dace; Henry Wheeler, in one day, 6lb. of roach; Job Brain, in one day, 20 lb. of roach; and Henry Howard, in two days, ten dozen of dace. The returns of some of the bank anglers are as follows: At the Jolly Anglers, Mr. Evans, 5½ lb.; Mr. Shalland, 3½ lb.; Mr. Coombs, 1½ dozen; Mr. Blake, one dozen; Mr. Wood, 3 lb.; Mr. Smith, 2 lb.; Mr. Brady, two dozen; Mr. Green, three dozen; Mr. Wesson, 4½ lb.; Mr. Hall, 4½ lb. At the Waterman's Arms, a chub of 2 lb. 7½ oz.

Twickenham.

Richard Coxen, in two days with Mr. West, eighteen dozen of dace; John Coxen, jun., in the same time, fifteen dozen of dace; George Coxen, in three days, 60 lb. of dace; George Chamberlain, with Mr. Beard during the week, 375 dace; John Dobbin, in one day, seven dozen of dace; John Spong, with Mr. Walker in two days, 15½ dozen of dace; and Pert Hammerton, in two days, 7½ dozen of dace.

Pert Hammerton, with Mr. Williams, three dozen of roach and dace: self and J. Spong, on the 17th, three dozen dace; J. Dobbin, with a gentleman, five dozen roach and dace; self and J. Spong on Monday, eleven dozen and four very fine dace; J. Spong and Mr. Wagstaff, Thursday, five dozen and half good dace; the water is in good condition.—W. WALKER.

P.S.—On the 7th of March there will be a fishing contest amongst my fishermen that work for me; a silver watch, the 1st prize, a handsome pipe the 2nd prize, and money prizes for all that fish on that occasion.—W. W.

Teddington.

No one has been out. The lampren season is about over. Water falling nicely, and in good colour. These are the only items from Teddington.

Kingston.

The reports from Kingston, East Moulsey, and Sunbury are a complete blank as regards punt fishing, but the bank anglers have been doing very well, some of the roach weighing 1½ lb., and chub up to 3½ lb.

Walton.

Mr. Levy has taken a trout, but returned it to the river again. Seven jack, the largest 7 lb., have been taken from the bank. George Hone a female carp of 10 lb., which was put back again.

The water has now gone down. It is now in condition for jack and perch fishing. There have been several jack taken this last week; the largest 8 lb.—S. ROSEWELL.

Weybridge.

Mr. Beatley has taken a barbel of 3 lb. and a chub of 2 lb.

Docket Point.

James Haslett, in one day, one jack and four brace of perch, all of which were returned to the river again.

Staines.

E. Keene, in one day, three roach, the largest 1 lb. 12 oz.; and John Keene, with Mr. Jones, in three hours, seven chub weighing 13½ lb.

Datchet.

The water is in good order, but the fish seem shy at biting; it must be owing to the changeable weather. On the 18th two patrons, with H. Hoare, had a few runs with jack, and landed one, 6 lb. A gentleman, with Keene, on the 19th, had a jack, 6 lb. J. Hoare, on the 19th, a jack. A visitor took a trout on the 19th between 7 and 8 lb.; he was returned to his native element. No doubt the roach would bite well now; but the difficulty is to get somewhere out of the wind.—G. LUMSDEN.

Eynsham.

The water in the different streams in this neighbourhood is now in first-rate condition for all-round fishing; roach, perch, and jack all have been, and are now, feeding well, and I have reports of several good takes of roach, some scaling 1 lb., and one of 1 lb. 9 oz. Eight good perch were taken on Tuesday, the largest 1½ lb., and during the week several jack have been caught with live bait. I have found lob worm the best for roach and perch, although to-day (Thursday) I have taken some good roach with the red worm.—W. B. HOWE.

UPPER THAMES.

The reports from the various up-river stations, over which it is my duty to keep a watchful eye, are meagre in the extreme. The water has been in excellent trim, but anglers conspicuous only by their absence. At Maidenhead Mr. C— has had some excellent chub, and a bank angler, fishing above Boulter's lock with tail of lob, bagged 15 lb. of splendid roach and perch, best roach going, I am told, just 1 lb. 7 oz. At Cookham, Bourne End, and Marlow roach and perch, I hear, have been had between the storms of wind and rain, but nothing to set the Thames on fire. At Hurley, Mr. Gherkie, fishing from The Bell, has been well amid the big, and a gentleman on the 17th inst., hailing from that "honest ale house," The East Arm, Hurley, caught as many roach as he could comfortably carry home. This angler stated that he returned at least four or five dozens as unsizable, and those shown were good fish, and in all ways a credit to the rodster. At Henley, Mr. J. W. Knight, with the assistance of Parrott and Vaughan, has recently placed 7,600 young trout in the local angling society's water in the Lodden. Thursday evening.—River in good order for any reasonable fishing. Wind due south, and weather marvellously mild and summer-like.—MARLOW BUZZ.

Goring.

Water coming down thick. In good order for roach-fishing. If it keeps fine it will do for jack about Monday or Tuesday. Jack have been feeding very well this week. Best day four jack, largest about 5 lb.—JOHN RUSH.

Ancholme District.

We have had a nice week, and a few anglers have been out, most of whom have done fairly. Grimsby fishermen are beginning to find out the Riverhead fishery. Three were over to day; but my report had to be sent off before I learned the result of their visit.—THOMAS FORD, Caistor.

Avon (Binton, Bidford, &c.)

Although the river has generally been in excellent condition, both as to height and colour during the past week, I have not heard of many anglers having taken advantage of such a favourable opportunity. Indeed, angling proper does not appear to be in very high favour with the votaries of the rod in this district during the winter months. Whether experience has taught them that roach, chub, and perch do not feed in the Avon except in the early autumn, or whether they are diffident of facing the usually cold winds of the season, I do not know. Probably, however, they prefer the more stirring work with the chance of a larger haul among the pike. Of this latter description of fishing the accounts are reassuring. I have heard of a good number of fishing having been brought to bank, the largest weighing 10 lb. Most of those caught were taken in the Bidford portion of the river. I have records also of a few trout having been taken in neighbouring streams (worm fishing) in excellent condition for time of year.—J. E.

Ballynahinch.

Since last report the above has only been fished two days. One by Mr. Brady who got one salmon 14 lb., and yesterday we tried it and got two, one 10½ lb., and one 12 lb. We had east wind all the week till yesterday, when we had a change to the south; to-day it is south-west. Glass very steady.—WALTER BLACKADDER.

Blackwater (Mallow, Co. Cork).

This river is at present flooded, and has been so for almost the past week. Two fish only have been taken—one by Captain Pearson, 15th Regiment, and another by Mr. Albert Lynch, weighing respectively 10 lb. and 11 lb. As soon as the river goes down to fishing height very good sport is expected, as these heavy floods, which we have had for the past three weeks, will bring up quantities of spring fish. There is no chance that the river will be fit for the next four or five days.—JOSEPH O. HAROLD.

Chichester.

The weather the past week has been very changeable. Notwithstanding the heavy rainfall the water is a capital colour and bream better on feed than for some time past, some good fish having been taken during the past week. The large pike seem to bear a charmed life; when hooked invariably breaking the hold. A few averaging four pounds have been landed. Some good perch and numbers of small roach and bream are taking paste—the largest roach patronising worm. Selham water is in good order, but I hear of nothing worth recording from that quarter.—GEORGE F. SALTER.

Dee (Aberdeenshire).

A few typographical errors having crept into our previous notes, it appears to us very desirable, before proceeding with our report, to point out a few of the more apparent of their number. Passing over errors in punctuation, which, in several cases, entirely altered the meaning of the sentences affected, we have to notice that in our article on the Don the word "completing" was substituted for "implementing," and "inference" for "influence,"

whilst, in last week's report, in addition to some slips in the names of places, "J. Wason, Esq.," was printed "T. Wason, Esq." In referring to a "rise of the water," the word "rise" in some unaccountable manner had become prefixed by the word "fish" ("fish rise"), with the result that the sentence was rendered perfectly ludicrous. It is needless to proceed further. One remark we venture, and that is, that by a mutual care on the part of both writer and printer, it is to be hoped such-like errors will not occur in future. Tuesday and Wednesday were comparatively barren of results in the way of angling on the Dee. Toward the end of the week, however, a pretty favourable general condition of affairs was manifest. The net fishing on the Don, though it did fairly well, did not keep up to its first day's average. The Dee slightly improved in this respect, though many fish managed to escape the nets in consequence of the high state of the water. To this fact may, in some measure, be attributed the good fortune that attended anglers during the concluding days of the week. The netting operations at the cruives of Don produced 190, at Grandholm 140, since Tuesday. On the Dee about 20 were landed at the Weil, 40 at Waterside, 70 at the Inchgarth 90 at Raik and Mid Shingle, 200 at Pot and Ford's, and 30 at Polldown. As regards rod fishing on the Don, it has as yet been a complete blank. A gentleman on the other day, angling at Kintore, landed six jack, averaging 6 lb. We believe it is because the cruives and dykes have prevented fish passing up that the result has been so extraordinary. The netting well testifies that it cannot be because few fish are running. These dykes have long been an eyesore to the upper proprietors, but want of concerted action has hitherto rendered abortive any attempts to remedy the evil. The weather during the last few days of the week was very cold; a dull, leaden sky and a keen, searching wind were its concomitants. The same conditions to-day (Tuesday) still prevail. Large flies were generally used during the week. We were shown a 4 inch "white-winged tricolour," supplied by Mr. Smith, Ballater, with which eight fish were killed during the first two days. It seems almost incredible that such a large-sized hook should have proved so deadly. A "silver grey" 2½ inch long shank, that contributed to the capture of five clean fish and the frightening of a few more, was also shown us by a gentleman of long experience on the Dee. Chief among the hooks used last week with great success were the "white-winged tricolour," "Ackroyd," "grey heron," yellow and white eagles. If the weather turns mild, and the river decreases in volume, much smaller hooks will require to be used. Kelts are not very abundant—at least, they have not been showing much. Reports to hand for last week:—Park and Durris District, Kingcausie Water.—Monday: A. Irvine Fortescue, Esq., 1 salmon, 9 lb. Drum Water.—Saturday, General Irvine, 2 salmon, 8 lb. and 10 lb. Friday: the keeper, 1 salmon, 8 lb. Park Water.—Monday: The keeper, 1 salmon, 14 lb. Tuesday: 1 salmon, 14 lb.; Friday 2 salmon, 10 lb. and 10½ lb. Saturday: 2 salmon, 8 lb. each, Durris Home Water.—Friday: C. Hayne, Esq., 1 salmon; Dr. Oliphant, 1 salmon, 15 lb. Saturday: Dr. MacDonald, 1 salmon, 10 lb. Banchory District, Wester Durris Water.—Tuesday: Major Gordon, 1 salmon, 15 lb. Friday: 1 salmon, 9 lb.; Saturday, 3 salmon, 8 lb., 10 lb., and 12 lb.; Colonel Hills, 1 salmon, 15 lb. Inverly Water.—Thursday: General Oliphant, 1 salmon, 14 lb. Friday: 1 salmon, 10 lb.; A. Wright, keeper, 1 salmon, 8 lb. Kineskie.—Friday: A. Grimbie, Esq., 2 salmon, 9 lb. and 10 lb. Saturday: Captain Malcolmson, 2 salmon, 8½ lb. and 9 lb. Upper Crathes.—Friday: Captain Malcolmson, 1 salmon, 8½ lb. Saturday, A. Grimbie, Esq., 1 salmon, 10 lb. Lower Blackhall.—Friday: Mr. Pirie, land steward, 1 salmon 8 lb. Saturday: 2 salmon, 9 lb. and 10 lb. Inchmarlo and Sluie Waters.—Saturday: Dr. Wright, 3 salmon, 9 lb., 9 lb., and 11 lb.; T. Barbour, Esq., 1 salmon, 9 lb.; C. Gill, keeper, 1 salmon, 7 lb. Upper Blackhall.—Friday: Mr. Frank Farquharson, 2 salmon, 10 lb. each. Saturday (along with D. Caird, fisherman): 5 salmon, 7, 8, 9, 12, and 13 lb. Cairnton.—Friday: Mr. David Rae, 1 salmon, 12 lb. Saturday: 1 salmon, 10 lb. Kincardine O'Neil District. Messrs. Blacklaws and Son's report. Ballogie Water.—Saturday: Hon. William Arbuthnot, 3 fish, 9, 11, and 12 lb. Borrowstone Water.—Walter D. Leslie, Esq., of Drumrossie, 1 fish, 6½ lb. Carlogie Water.—Friday: Admiral Farquhar, 2 fish, 7 and 10 lb. Saturday: Scott, keeper, 1 fish, 8 lb. Norton House Water.—Friday: Major Charles Leith-Hay, 1 fish, 9 lb. Saturday: 1 fish, 9½ lb.; Admiral Farquhar, R.N., 1 fish, 7½ lb. Commonly Water.—Friday: James Christie, Esq., Potarch, 3 salmon, 8, 9, and 10 lb.; the keepers to R. Farquharson, Esq., of Finzean, M.P., 5 fish, 8, 9, 10½, 12, and 14 lb. Aboyne District.—Huntly Lodge Water.—Saturday: J. Wason, Esq., 2 salmon, 7 and 10 lb. Huntly Arms Water.—Wednesday: James Milne for F. Sandison, Esq., 4 salmon, 7, 7, 11, and 13 lb. Saturday: 1 salmon, 5 lb. The keepers to Wm. Cunliffe Brooks, Esq., M.P., of Glentanar, landed a few nice fish during the week. Report of Mr. George Smith, Ballater. Ballater District. Birkhall Water.—Saturday: R. Lundie, keeper to his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, 2 fish, 8 and 9 lb. Monaltrie Water (F. Pickop, Esq.).—Saturday: Colonel Keen, 2 fish; 7 and 8 lb.; T. Kinnaird, 1 fish, 7½ lb.; Jas. Harper, 1 fish, 8½ lb.; Friday, 3 fish, 7, 7½, and 8½ lb. Invercauld Arms Water.—Friday: J. Müller, Esq., 6 fish, 8, 8, 9, 10, 10, and 10 lb. Pananich Water.—Saturday: A. Grant, keeper to J. T. Mackenzie, Esq., of Kintail and Glenmuick, landed 3 fish, 8½, 8½, and 10½ lb. Cambus O'May Lodge Water.—H. L. Gaskell, Esq., 18 fish, ranging from 6 to 16 lb., were landed during the week. Braemar District. Fife Arms Water.—Thursday: James Macnab, Esq., 1 salmon, 10 lb.; Ewan Macdonald, 1 salmon, 9 lb. Invercauld Private Water.—Tuesday: J. C. Wordie, Esq., London and party, 4 fish, 6½, 8, 8½, and 13½ lb.; Thursday, 10 fish, 7 to 16 lb. Friday: 7 fish, 8 to 14 lb. During Monday of this week the following were landed: Durris Home Water.—Dr. Macdonald, 1 fish, 9 lb. Monaltrie Water.—J. Simpson, Esq., 1 fish, 9 lb.; J. Bremnor, Esq., 1 fish, 7 lb. Invercauld Arms Water, Ballater.—J. Müller, Esq., 4 fish, 9, 9½, 9½, and 10½ lb. Huntly Arms Water, Aboyne.—J. Findlayson and James Milne, for F. Sandison, Esq., 3 fish, 8, 8, and 16 lb. Huntly Lodge Water.—J. Wason, Esq., 2 fish, 8 and 9 lb. A good deal of rain fell overnight, and to-day (Wednesday, 11.30) at Aberdeen indications of more favourable weather are apparent. Owing to the low temperature of the water fish are less active and more obstinate than usual at this season. The river is well stocked with salmon, the pools on the Upper Reaches exceptionally well. Good sport may be expected if the river maintains a steady flow during the week.—W. M.

Dove.

Wind, weather, and water have all alike been favourable this week, and the number of fly-fishers on our river banks is daily increasing. The best killing flies have been the blue dun, the blue bumble, and the March brown. The dishes have averaged about five brace per rod. The trout fry introduced into the Dove (as mentioned by me last week) came from the Howietown Fishery, near Stirling. The blackbird and the thrush are singing in our valleys as if we were in the middle of April rather than February. Grouse in the moors, too, are beginning to pair.—THE SPODGER.

Eden (Carlisle.)

Rod-fishing for salmon has so far been a complete blank. On Saturday last, the opening day, the river was much too full, but looked like being in order by Monday, and so it was till about 10 o'clock, when Sunday night's rain began to tell, and the river, "waxed" nearly all day. It is still fuller to-day and full of snow-broth. If we have no more rain it ought to "fash" on Monday. Salmon is plentiful at 1s. 6d. per lb.—SILVER GREY.

Eze (Tiverton.)

The season opened on the Association Water on Friday last. Notwithstanding there was a strong and biting east wind, a good number of anglers put in an appearance by the waterside. Some very good baskets of trout were taken in the early part of the day. Since then the water has been too foul, until yesterday, when there was some very fair sport. A good deal of rain fell last night, and the water is again thick to-day, but is clearing a little toward evening, and if no more rain, it will be fishable to-morrow. Flies taking best are blue upright, silver twist, heron body blue, and February red.—WILLIAM WINDFORD.

Lakes of Killarney.

Since the last report there have only been a few days without rain and cold showers of hail. The lower lake will not be fit for fishing for some time to come; as I write, there is a regular downpour of rain; all the rivers are flooded, and will not be fit for fishing for some few days to come. On 14th, Tim McCarthy got one salmon on the middle lake, 11 lb, with a fly, half orange and green jay, with orange hackle under the wing; Pat Robert, one on the middle lake, 12 lb.; 15th, Pat Clifford, one salmon, 12 lb.; Tom Murphy, one, 12 lb.; Mr. John C. Coltsmann got one salmon, 12 lb, on Flesk; next day, 2 salmon, 20½ lb., with flies, one with the Kate Kearny, one with a blue and brown; Mr. J. D. Curtayne, one salmon, 12 lb., on Flesk; Callaghan McCarthy, one on Flesk, 10 lb.; Michael Kellcher, one 13 lb.; next day, Mr. John C. Coltsmann, one, 9½ lb.; 18th, John Robert got two salmon on the middle lake, 21 lb., with flies; Tim McCarthy, three salmon, 35 lb., with flies, two of them he killed with his favourite Kate Kearny, or otherwise orange, crimson, and green, with jay hackle down the body, orange under the wing. The nets got some good salmon this week. Muckross, about 30 salmon; Glens, 23 salmon; Eugene Shangney, upper lake, 20 salmon, the largest 15½ lb.—TIM MCCARTHY.

Lea Ware.

The water here is all that an angler could desire, there being a little rain falling at the time of writing, and the weather like spring. A gentleman fishing here for the last two days has been getting good sport, the bait being a blood worm. Anglers can get them themselves by shoving their landing net in the mud anywhere up the Manifold ditch, and bringing it up full of mud and then they can sort it over. I have not seen anybody jack fishing lately; but there are some good ones in the piece of water from the Tumbling Bay to the Bridge; they want a nice Thames dace for bait. The lawsuit now on will make it better for anglers down here, as in my opinion that is the cause of the falling off in the good takes.—PIPE CLAY.

Lee and Blackwater.

The river has not been fishable for more than two days during the week. Flood has followed flood in quick succession, and it will be some time before the Lee fines down to that condition when the salmon have entered the streams, and skilful manipulation and light tackle are required to enable the angler to ply with success. It is then the good fisherman can show his skill and his perseverance. The operations on the Lee during the week have not been very heavy; but if we go back a little we find, according to returns furnished, that there has been good sport on Captain Abbott's fishery, and upon Sir Augustus Warren's, Mr. Beamish has been doing well also with Major Broderick—both of them having landed seven springers since the opening. Mr. Bass has taken two during the week; Mr. George Haynes, one on the 17th; Mr. Granger, Macroom, two; Colonel Hawkes, four. The Bandon river opened on Friday, and the accounts from it are very cheering so far, several nice fish having been landed on the first day. The Blackwater has not been in condition to fish for some days, owing to the heavy rains. There is this very remarkable difference between the Lee and Blackwater—that while one takes a week to clear after a flood, the other can be fished on the following day—the Blackwater being a deeper and more sluggish river, and flowing through peat land, which gives off surface water of a dark colour, it takes more time to settle down.

Leicester.

The weather during the early part of the week was mild and open, but sport upon the whole has been remarkably quiet. In the local society's waters roach and perch have been taken in fair quantities, several of the roach being close upon 1 lb. The weather has been too bright and summerlike to afford any good sport amongst the pike, as, instead of having a nice breeze, it has been as quiet as the proverbial millpond, as a rule. At Aylestone the best fishing has been amongst the roach and chub; but here again we have had the weather too mild to get the chub fairly well on the feed, and no large ones seem to have been caught from these waters, although many have been seen that could not have been less than 5 or 6 lb. We experienced a very heavy storm early on Thursday morning; but it cleared up, and was bright before noon. Heavy rain again fell during the afternoon, putting a stop to angling for the remainder of the day. Rivers fairly full of water, with plenty of colour.—ALERT.

Loch Tay (Scotland).

Neither weather nor water has been very favourable to good fishing during the past week, and at the moment of writing the level of the loch is again very high. On Thursday last week four beautiful new-run salmon were taken on the Killin Hotel water. Mr. S. Berger, London (1), 23 lb.; Mr. Broad, London (2), 19 lb. and 22 lb.; and Mr. Archibald, Tillicoultry (1), 18 lb. On Friday the same water yielded a nice fish of 21 lb. to Mr. Archibald, and one of 10 lb. to Colonel Cameron, Inverailort. On the Ardeonaig Hotel water Mr. Wardle, of Leeds, got two salmon weighing respectively 14 and 24 lb. On Lochay water, Dr. Gray, of Glasgow, killed a fine 27 pounder. On Saturday the Kenmore Hotel water was fished by Mr. Thomas Brown, from Glasgow, and Mr. J. Townsend, Glasgow, the former getting one of 22 lb. and the latter one of 20 lb. The Kenmore Reserved water was cast over by the Duke of Roxburgh and Sir James Ramsey, the Duke getting one salmon of 22 lb., and Sir James two, 21 and 23 lb. On Monday a 19 lb fish was taken from the Lochay Hotel water by Mr. Russell, of Paisley. On Tuesday, Captain Low, London, had two salmon on the Kenmore Hotel water, 19 and 24 lb., and Mr. Lloyd, Liverpool, one 12 lb. On the Killin Hotel water Mr. Crabbie, Edinburgh, killed a 25 pounder, and Mr. Broad, from London, one of 23 lb. Fishing from the Lochay Hotel boats, Mr. Gourley, of Glasgow,

got two, 13 and 16 lb. On Wednesday a 20 lb. fish was taken from the same water by Mr. Richmond. Until the Loch settles considerably, and an improvement is manifested on the weather, sport must remain limited.—J. MC. G.

Lugg and Arrow.

These streams are now high and muddy, owing to the heavy rains of this week. There were great hopes of a fine week, as several gentlemen were coming to the district for a week's fishing; but it has had to be put off till fine weather comes and the water gets clear. On Friday a good lot of fish were taken from the Arrow with the worm. A visit to the Monkland district on Friday, when a good dish of trout was landed. A gentleman tried the Lugg on Saturday, and landed a nice lot of fish. The Finsley is high and muddy, and but a few fish were taken the beginning of the week, the water being too muddy since for any fishing to be done. The Earlsland waters have been visited but little this week—a few nice trout were landed there on Saturday with the worm; but nothing since. A few good fish were taken on Friday in the Ivington district, and a nice dish on Monday, with the worm. Fishing quiet in the Shobden waters. There is nothing doing in the Eaton waters.—GWYNNE

Medway (Tonbridge).

With the water in first-class condition there ought to be plenty of sport to record, but very few anglers have been out, east winds and treacherous weather not being very inviting. The otters are again a great nuisance, and seem to defy the most artful plans devised for their capture. During the past few days a very fine heron has been shot below the town, and a seagull above.

Those fond of pike-fishing should now do well, though it would be a good job if the 16th March were here, as the fish are very forward in spawn.—Ys MEDWAY WATER RAT.

Ness (Inverness).

The angling on the Ness opened on Monday, the 11th; the river has been in high flood three weeks, and on Monday was almost overflowing its bank and in a highly unfavourable state for angling. A large number of the locals were out during the day, and some very nice baskets of sea trout were made with worm, the trout being of excellent quality. The following is a list of the free fishing days on the Ness for 1884:—February 11, 20, 29; March 10, 19, 28; April 7, 16, 25; May 5, 14, 23; June 2, 11, 20, 30; July 9, 18, 28; August 6, 15, 25; September 3, 12, 22; October 1, 10. Free days fall upon Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. The river is still in flood, and will not be in fishing order for some days.—D. WATSON.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

Ouse and Ivel (Blunham).

Both rivers in first-rate order; sport good.—T.E.

Ouse (Huntingdon).

The water is in splendid condition for jack now, and they are on the feed. Now is the time for anglers to be out, for they will not have a better. There is every chance for fishing in the main river as well as the backwaters. Two anglers were out on the 10th and took fifteen pike, weighing about 40 lb.; so it shows that the waters are well stocked with pike. They were taken in the backwaters, the main river being then not fishable.—H. ROUT, keeper.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

The water still keeps in splendid condition for fishing, but the wind rages very much, which, I think, is not very good for jack. Four jack were taken by one gentleman on the 17th, which was a very rough day, and his opinion was that the wind was too rough; and two were taken on the 19th, it being a very favourable day, by Mr. T. Fovargue, weighing about 6½ lb., but nothing was taken on Wednesday. I cannot hear of much having been doing this week.—H. ROUT, keeper.

Ouse (Littleport).

I forgot to make out my report last week. Several good takes were had among the roach, and Mr. Elliot, Cambridge, broke the spell among the pike with one of 4½ lbs. Mr. S. Fulcher followed suit same day with a pretty one of 6½ lbs. On Thursday last, Messrs. J. Goater, A. Lemaire, A. Pace, and S. Clarke, Newmarket, had a fine turn among the roach. Mr. J. Goater getting the roach of the day, 11b. 6 oz. February 17th—Mr. W. Brewster, Cambridge, 9½ lb. roach; Mr. Franz Henschel, Cambridge, 7½ lbs.; and Mr. J. Hutt, Cambridge, 4½ lb. February 20th—Mr. W. Rushworth, West Ham, 12lbs. good roach; ought to have had twice as much weight, but I planted him badly. Mr. J. George, Cambridge, 9lb. I fairly did Mr. Lemaire, Newmarket, out of a good catch, by trying to do better than best, viz., taking him off a good swim, and putting him on to one that turned out nil. 21st—Mr. J. Hutt, Cambridge, 16½ lb. roach, and Mr. W. Agger, Cambridge, 18 lb. roach. The last named gentleman got 24lb. pike, largest 7lbs., in Society's water, not far from here, which must be nameless.—C. SOUTH.

Pickering (North-East Yorkshire).

Some nice pike and grayling have been taken since last report. The former have not taken hold freely until last Saturday, when the keen south-east wind seemed to suit their appetites. The same may be said of grayling taking the worm, but as yet they have never risen well since last November. A considerable increase in the number and variety of flies in the last day or two.—NORTH-EAST.

Severn (Shrewsbury).

The second annual meeting of this most popular and flourishing club took place on Monday week, at the headquarters, Morgan's Vaults, Mardol, Shrewsbury, when the following gentlemen were among those present:—Messrs. J. H. Morris (in the chair), W. H. Brown, R. Ellis, sen., R. Ellis, jun., J. Woodfin, sen., W. Stammers, D. Jones, R. Tucker, J. G. Harrison, W. E. Rumsey, A. Peverell, T. Blakemore, F. H. Morgan (hon. sec.), &c., &c. Mr. Morgan, in reading the report, remarked that, although this was the second annual meeting, the club really had only been established one year and eleven months, having held its first meeting on the 9th March, 1882, and the great amount of work which has since then been accomplished has surpassed the expectations of the most sanguine of the members. The first effort was the presentation of a memorial to the Board of Conservators, signed by nearly 500 anglers and others, asking the Board to adopt some new by-laws for the purpose of restricting the net and night line fishing within the borough. The Board expressed their willingness to co-operate with the Town Council in the matter, and instructed their chairman to communicate with Mr. Hawley Edwards, with a view to drawing up a short Act for the purpose. The Corporation were next memorialised by the riparian owners, who asked them to undertake the control of the fishing in the borough. The matter was referred to the Finance Committee, who received a deputation from this society, who fully explained

the requirements of the public. The Council, at their next meeting, received a most favourable report, and appointed a deputation, as did also the angling society, to meet the Executive Committee of the Board, who held a meeting at Worcester on January 16th, 1884, the outcome of which meeting is the alteration of the close time for nets and night lines, and the increase of the license duties. The society, through their president, James Watson, Esq., received a handsome present of trout fry, which were placed in the river last spring. Before sitting down, Mr. Morgan said he felt it his duty to inform them that the society were greatly indebted to the press for their kindness in supporting the objects which they had in view. The balance-sheet having been adopted, which showed that the society is in a most satisfactory financial state, the election of officers for the ensuing year was proceeded with. The result was as follows:—President, James Watson, Esq.; treasurer, Mr. J. H. Morris; hon. secretary, Mr. F. H. Morgan; committee, Messrs. R. Ellis, sen., G. Sayce, W. G. Gregory, J. Woodfin, W. H. Brown, D. Jones, W. E. Rumsey. Mr. Rumsey then proposed, and Mr. Woodfin seconded, the following resolution:—"That the best thanks of this society are due, and are hereby given, to James Watson, Esq., Mr. Morris, and Mr. F. H. Morgan, for the efficient manner in which they have filled their various offices during the past year." Mr. Morris, in replying, said he begged to thank the members for the vote of thanks they had so cordially given him, and assured them that he had the interest of the society at heart, and when there was anything which required attention he was always ready, as far as possible, to give his time. Mr. F. H. Morgan replied in appropriate terms. Mr. Rumsey then proposed, and Mr. Morgan seconded, a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Hawley Edwards, remarking that, had it not have been for the energy and perseverance of that gentleman, the preservation of the river would be as far off as ever. A vote of thanks to the chairman concluded the proceedings. A fine Severn salmon was received by Mr. Roberts last week, and is selling at 2s. 6d. per lb. On Saturday last I saw two very fine pike, weighing 7 lb. each, also a lot of perch and rough fish. The river is now getting into good angling condition. The weather during the week has been by far the most wintery we have yet experienced.—SEVERN SALMON.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

A fisherman named Tench, on Thursday last, had a very fair day's sport in Becksfield, among his basket being a fine perch which weighed nearly 1 lb. 8 oz. Since Saturday last the river has been in anything but angling condition. Rain has fallen nearly every day. Someone fishing up the river, was lucky enough to take a few very nice trout on that day, through being on the spot before the river began to rise. I am writing from Llanymynech, and have had a walk along the banks of the Verniew, but was not induced to put my rod together, as the river is far too high to obtain sport. Anglers and netmen in this district anticipate a good salmon season, there having been plenty of water in the right time to bring the fish up.—SEVERN SALMON.

Tay.

The stormy state of the weather and the flooded condition of the river have combined to restrict angling on the Tay since the opening of the season, and unfortunately there is no appearance of any decided improvement even yet. In spite of these depressing circumstances, however, some of the reaches of the river have been angled with fair success. On Tuesday, last week, the Pitcastle keeper took a fine 27 pounder, and Mr. Kincaid got a 22 pounder in the Stobhall water. Casting from the bank on Friday, on the Birnam Hotel water, Mr. Pople landed one of 22 lb., and other six were killed of the following weights: 29½ lb., 26 lb., 18 lb., 18 lb., 15 lb., 16 lb. On Saturday, Mr. Malloch, Perth, took a 19 lb. salmon with minnow, from the Dalguise water, and the Findyate keeper landed a plump specimen of 22 lb. On Monday, Mr. Pople had one fish, 11 lb., from his own water, and on Tuesday, Mr. Scotland fished the Dalguise water, and had three fish, 17 lb., 17 lb., and 22 lb. One of the 17 pounders was caught with the black dog fly, and was terribly wild, running 200 yards down the river before being brought to bank. On Isla-mouth water, Mr. Kelsall killed a clean fish of 19 lb., and landed 13 kelts. On Benchill water, Sir William Elliot landed a 20 pounder. On Wednesday, Mr. Butler had two fish on Birnam Hotel water, 13 lb. and 14 lb., and the Pitcastle keeper got one of 20 lb. Some good trout and salmon are also being got on the Tummel and Garry, tributaries of the Tay. Net fishing on the river has been exceedingly successful since the opening, especially on the stations owned by Lord Mansfield, an upper proprietor, and leased by Mr. Anderson, fish merchant, Edinburgh, who has made a most successful initiation of his lease.—J. McG.

Teme (Ludlow).

The waters of this river are not so high as might have been expected after the rain and snow that have fallen; but they are too high for the angler; they are also coloured, and fishermen who have been tempted to visit the stream have had but middling sport. A few nice trout have been caught in the Steventon quarter with the red-worm, which at present is the only bait of any use to the angler. A fisherman yesterday tried the Ashford waters, but only caught a couple of small perch. A fisherman on Monday visited Onibury, and tried the Ony for two miles, plenty of fish there, and he had hundreds of bites; but not a single fish would take the bait, and he returned to Ludlow in anything but a pleasant temper. Nothing daunted, he again visited the stream, but fished from the opposite side of the river, and came down stream towards Ludlow (instead of fishing up stream). The fish again nibbled, but though the most expert fisherman in this district, and knowing every foot of the rivers banks, he only succeeded in landing one trout in a curl of the water. He informed me that he could only account for his luck by the snow water coming down the fields and ditches into the river during the week. Some fish were taken from the Corve on Saturday, but they were not very large ones. There has not been anything doing in the Ledwyche on the Clun. We are informed that Teme and all its tributaries are not only well stocked with trout, but other sorts of fish which are called "rough" in this locality, abound in these waters. Should the weather hold fine, fishermen may calculate on having all the streams again in good fishing order by the beginning of next week.—S. LUDLOW.

Teme (Tenbury).

The fishing in this district has been very quiet since Monday, owing to the heavy downpour of rain with which the district has been visited. The water is rather higher and more coloured than it was last week. A few very good trout were landed near the town on Friday, with the worm. Some very good sport was had in the water near Easton Court on Saturday, when a good basket of fish was landed with the worm. A very nice dish of fish was taken above the bridge the same day. A lot of fine trout were taken below the town on Monday with the worm, and a nice lot above the Little Hereford Bridge with the same bait. A gent tried the water on Tuesday, but had to give it up as a bad job, the weather being so rough: he managed to land one small trout about 6 oz. The Kyre and Rea are both high and muddy, and no fishing

doing in them. The Ledwyche is high and coloured, and fishing at present very quiet. If the weather keeps fine we may expect some good fishing in a few days.—WORCESTER.

Trent (Newark).

The water has been in capital condition for most classes of winter-fishing this week, and as the weather has been very favourable, anglers have mustered in considerable force. The little red worm has succeeded in luring a few roach to destruction, and I heard of one angler getting half-a-dozen decent bream with the same bait out of one of the noted swims a few miles below here. A few chub have also fallen victims to pith and brains, while the brandling worm has been credited with the death of one or two of those fish. Two or three jack have also bit gimp and perished; but, taking the week as a whole, sport has not been very general. I know two or three first-class anglers who have been out hours and failed to stir a fin. At the time of writing (Thursday) I fancy the water has come on a few inches, and it has been raining heavily this afternoon; but I don't think it will affect the river much; so my advice is, stick to the little red worm for roach, and try the chub with pith and brains. As for jack, I will say nothing about them, only it is time to bring jack-fishing to a close for this season. I noticed to day a shoal of dace making an upward swift, so I expect these fish will be on the spawning beds presently.—THE TRENT OTTER.

Tweed.

Saturday last was the first day, after the opening of the rod salmon season on Tweed and Teviot, that anglers could try their luck, and accordingly a good many of the more ardent disciples of old Izaak did their best to line in fish to bank, but without success; and as the rivers came down in flood during the afternoon, angling of course had to be stopped for the day, and since that time both Tweed and Teviot have been running in flood. On Wednesday, the Tweedometer at Kelso registered fully 8 feet of flood water. Should no more rain fall, the rivers will quickly subside, and salmon angling ought to be in full vigour next week. Some very good baskets of trout have been got lately by bottom-fishing, but the fish were, generally speaking, in poor condition. On the Tweed, Mr. Thos. Dickson had three trout which scaled 4 lb.; these were got by spinning minnow. On the same river Mr. T. Mackenzie, had 8 lb. of trout, and a brace of bull-trout, the latter being in very fair condition. Mr. Robt. Turnbull, Kelso, had also a good basket on the Tweed and on the Teviot, Mr. R. Robertson, Kelso, had a very nice dish of 4½ lb. Weather mild, with bright sunshine.—MAXWHEEL, Kelso.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

With a fair good week, so far as water and weather were concerned, anglers on these rivers have had no reason to complain. The weather has been very favourable since our last report, and as a matter of course, anglers have been busy on all the rivers. On the Teviot, Mr. T. Dickson, fishing-rod maker, had four trout, weighing 3½ lb., the bait used being minnows. On the same river, Mr. D. Brown had about 8 lb. On the Cornhill water, on Tuesday, Mr. Thos. Johnston was again to the front, having killed the first salmon of the season on this water, which scaled 10 lb.; the same gentleman, on the Hendersyde water, on Wednesday, killed a very beautiful clean run 15-lb. kipper salmon—this was really a very handsome fish. On Tuesday, Mr. James Kerse killed a brace of salmon on the Hendersyde water, and we believe that some other fish have also been killed on the upper waters. A storm of wind last night brought the Tweed and Teviot down to the extent of 3½ feet to-day; therefore angling will be impracticable until Saturday.—MAXWHEEL, Kelso.

Waveney (Beccles).

Owing to strong easterly winds from Friday to Monday night, sport was anything but good; on Tuesday the wind changed to full south, and fish, especially pike, have been biting freely. The water has been first-class and very low tide all the week, which accounts for the capture of so many jack. Mr. Mark Mills, on Tuesday afternoon, three jack, about 3½ lb. each; Mr. Alfred Darley, of the yacht "Fiona," fishing within fifty yards of Beccles Bridge to-day (Thursday) secured eight jack, largest going 5 lb.; remainder weighing from 3½ to 4 lb. each; also on Wednesday afternoon, three fish, averaging 4 lb. each. Wind in good quarter. Water in perfect condition. N.B.—More proof of what I have previously said about there being plenty of fish without going far for them, as all must conclude, when so many pike are captured so near the bridge.—A WAVENEY ANGLER.

Wharfe (Yorkshire).

This river is now in good order for fly-fishing, but as the trout season has not yet fairly commenced, there is very little doing; in another fortnight or so, should the weather be favourable, the following flies will be most likely to kill:—Moorgame and orange, waterhen and orange, and snipe and yellow. The weather on Wednesday was much warmer.—FRANCIS M. WALBRAN.

Wye and Derwent.

The weather and water have been all that anglers could wish for during the past week, and a very fair number of anglers have been out on these streams, and one and all of them have had sport, both with the artificial flies, and by trolling with the Derby trout killer, and by swimming the cockspur worms in the eddies of the stream, killing good dishes of grayling and a few trout. Mr. Charles West, of Wirksworth, killed a splendid dish of large grayling last Saturday, in F. C. Arkwright's water, below Cromford Bridge (with cockspur worm), that weighed 9½ lb. the lot, and several other anglers have had good baskets of grayling. Grayling have been feeding well lately. I have read Dr. Brunton's letter on the grayling with great interest, and I can say with the greatest confidence, that I never in all my experience as a practical angler and every dayfisherman the year through, weather and water permitting—that I never knew grayling to feed on the ova of trout, either in the Dove, Wye, or Derwent. It is a very great mistake to think they destroy the trout ova in these Derbyshire rivers. Now trout, all practical fishermen well know, go up the brook to spawn—that is, if there is a brook near; and grayling scarcely ever go into the brooks. In fact, I don't think I have killed more than half a dozen grayling in a brook in all my life, and they have been grayling of a very large size, and have been taken while the main river to the brook has been in flood. Fishing prospects are looking well for next week for either fly or worm fishing. The flies I recommended last week are killers for any of the Derbyshire rivers.—GEO. JAS. EATON.

Yore (Hawes).

Since the opening day there has never been a water. We had some very cold weather last week, and to-day we might be in early summer. The barometer has gone down a "buster," so I anticipate a flood about the week's end. The wind to-day south-west by west.—R. CORRY.

[Mr. Corry has sent a reply to Mr. Ford and other correspondents on the "Salmon in Trout Streams" question, which we shall insert as soon as possible.—ED.]

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

- ENQUIRER.—We do not know any place where the salmon are fished for with fly in the sea, though they are often taken in brackish tidal water.
- A. COGGESHALL VOLUNTEER.—Yes; we regret very much the printer spoiled your lines by a misprint, putting "cautiously" instead of "courteously" in the third verse of "How Mr. Jardine Catches his Pike." This is the three hundred and twelfth time we have complained about printers' errors in the GAZETTE, and to three different printers, too. We mean to try another very soon. In the meantime, we must beg our readers to pour out their wrath on Messrs. Bradley and Co. direct. They can blow them up with dynamite for all we care, as long as they don't do it on Friday morning.
- BEIAR ROOT.—If weather is suitable, fly-fishing will commence on some Hampshire waters during March. The proprietors do not all keep to one date. We should be glad if those who have water open to anglers, on payment, would write and inform us.
- K.—The "Quaint Treatise on Flies and Fly Making," by W. H. Aldam, with the exception of about six copies, held by W. Satchell and Co., 19, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C. No genuine copies can be had but through Mr. Aldam, Chilcomb, Winchester. Price per copy, 4 guineas, and only a limited number remain of this antique and valuable work.

CORRESPONDENCE.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our Correspondents.

UNDRESSED VERSUS DRESSED LINES.—RECIPE FOR DRESSING THEM.

SIR,—I promised I would write a letter for insertion in the FISHING GAZETTE about salmon lines, and why dressed lines become, in so many cases, rotten after being a short time in use. There are few salmon fishers who have not experienced the disappointment and annoyance caused by the loss of a good fish owing to using what has turned out to be rotten tackle that was considered quite sound only a very short time previously. To those as well as the angling public the subject must be of some interest, and as I think it well deserves to be ventilated I venture to give my opinion. I think the rotting of dressed lines is caused by their not being allowed to remain long enough in the dressing that is used for them to get thoroughly saturated with it. Gold size, or other drying solution, is mixed with the dressing, and the object being to get the thing done as quickly as possible, the lines do not get fair play. Let any one take a line that has never been used and cut off the end of it with a sharp scissors—in nine cases out of ten he will find that it is hollow, and that the dressing has not penetrated to the interior; therefore, it stands to reason that if there should be a flaw in any part of it that gets immersed in the water when in use (which is often caused by its being accidentally trodden on or bruised by coming into contact with stones, bushes, stumps of trees, &c., on the river bank when casting) the water will make its way through the flaw and gradually fill up the hollow; and as it would in such a case be impossible to dry the line in consequence of the outside of it being waterproof, it must soon become rotten. The same would apply to a solid plaited line, but it would not be so easy to detect the imperfection in the dressing. Doubtless lines get rotten from various other causes, but I am of opinion that the one I have mentioned lies at the root of the evil. This, however, I will venture to say, may be avoided if the following directions are attended to.

In dressing a line, I would allow it to remain in the solution that is used for at least a fortnight or three weeks, so as to allow it to be thoroughly saturated, and the dressing to become, when dried, as it were, part and parcel of the line. This I hold to be absolutely necessary; and a line so treated would be impervious to wet, and should last for years. July and August are the best months for the drying process. I would, therefore, commence operations by putting the line or lines to soak in the dressing early in June, so as to have the full benefit of the drying in those months when the temperature is the highest during the year. In drying (which will take a long time), the line, when taken out of the dressing, should be fastened at both ends at full length about 5 feet from the ground, to two poles placed horizontally in the ground in a garden or field where it cannot be meddled with. Remove all superfluous dressing by passing the hand gently two or three times down the line from end to end. Then, as there will be always a certain amount of accumulation of the dressing at the centre of the bend which will run down from both ends, finish off by removing this with a sponge or flannel; when it is tolerably dry, dip it again in the solution for a few hours, and repeat the process of removing the superfluous dressing. The longer it is left to dry the better. Take every opportunity, when weather permitted, of putting it out in the open air, and when in the house, hang it up in a dry place in large coils. The most perfect specimens of dressed lines I ever saw were those that were exhibited by Mr. W. Wells Ridley at the International Fisheries Exhibition last year, but such excellence can only be attained by the aid of a glazing machine.

For my own use I prefer a 40-yard solid plait silk line tapered at both ends, undressed, attached to a back line of about 80 yards. I find that it is as pleasant to fish with as a dressed line, and will last much longer, and I have not the trouble of dressing it. If any of my brother anglers should feel inclined to try one, I will engage they will not be disappointed.

I find that I have written at much greater length than I at first intended. However, if you think the matter of sufficient interest, you are welcome to insert my letter.—I am, &c.,

JOHN P. TRAHERNE.

[Mr. Williams, of Messrs. Williams and Co., came up just now to see the undressed line Major Traherne kindly lent us. He brought an undressed line made to order for an Usk angler, and about three times as thick as the Major's—almost as thick as blind cord, in fact. There can be no doubt that if water-proofed lines were all prepared as carefully as Major T. advises, there would not be nearly so many complaints about them.—ED.]

FEELING IN FISH.

SIR,—The instance narrated in your paper of January 19th, by your correspondent "W. S. P.," simply shows that the pike he spoke of was hungry, and left the question of whether he was in pain exactly as it was. This difficult subject, upon which scientists differ, I do not myself propose to enter into; but I think that, as there is a doubt, we ought at least to give the poor fish the benefit of it, in return for the sport they afford us; and, it seems to me, sir, that you might save endless pain (or what appears so) to millions of fish by impressing upon anglers the advisability of killing their fish,

instead of allowing them to flounder about for hours, gasping in the (seeming) agonies of suffocation.

As a rule, jack are the only fish usually killed by anglers, and that for obvious reasons; but even the rough-and-ready method of banging their heads against the side of the punt, or administering a violent kick, is generally ineffectual, and only stuns them for a time, as is proved by their jumping about with renewed vigour long after they are supposed to have received their quietus.

Lest some of your readers may not have seen the process, I may just mention that thrusting a knife into the V-shaped space just behind a jack's head is a very speedy way of quieting him, and I cannot see why this operation should not be performed on other kinds of fish, except, of course, those intended for preservation.

If these few remarks lead to a little more consideration on the part of anglers towards fish, it will afford much gratification to—Yours, &c.,

[We have frequently for years past urged anglers to kill their fish and not let them die slowly.—ED.]

MR. KELSON'S ARTICLES.

SIR,—Could you or Mr. Kelson kindly inform readers of the FISHING GAZETTE where Mr. Ridley's salmon lines can be purchased?—I am, &c.,

Oxford.

N. E. L.

[I regret I am unable to give any further information about Mr. Ridley's lines. No gentleman is more popular in the "salmon world," and I have no doubt it would be easy enough to get an introduction to him.—GEO. M. KELSON.]

P.S.—Mr. Kelson would be conferring a great favour upon those for whom his articles are written if in the next number he were to give a clearer description of the prop A.

[Any fairly straight stick about 4 feet 4 inches in length, the size of an ordinary mop handle or stable broom, is best. The staple, as described, is fixed in immediately above the string, say 2 inches from the top, with the slit in it uppermost. It is almost impossible to make any mistake, and I fail to see how I could improve the directions.—GEO. M. KELSON.]

THE LAND AND WATER GRABBERS IN SCOTLAND.

SIR,—You are becoming so chary of giving space nowadays—so unlike your usual genial piscatorial self, in fact—that, Scotsman-like, I rather grudge the penny which this blessed epistle will cost! I really have something important to say, though, this time, and it will be briefly stated, although you may not think so.

Reading much in the GAZETTE of the spirit—the very proper spirit—which seems to be abroad of anglers asserting their rights, will you allow me, as a sort of "voice from the Highlands," to complain that under the influence of a self-assertion which is intolerable, Highland proprietors are year after year infringing on rights established from time immemorial, so that now there is scarcely a lake among the hills which is not let to some "sportsman" as an adjunct to a deer forest or grouse moor, or to the tenant of some hotel as a bait to higher rent for his lairdship, and more visitors to the district.

I am not an extremely venerable party as yet; but I remember the day—not very long since—when any man or boy might go and do his very level best to basket the trout on any hill loch, with fly or worm; but now the law of trespass is being actively held over our heads, because, forsooth, our elastic steps would be calculated to do untold and unexplainable injury (unless the advantage to lairds and hotelkeepers can make it clear) to the moss and heather.

There is some sort of idea current in the Highlands that an old custom must be allowed to lapse for forty years ere a proprietor can step in and say, "No, you shan't." Is it worth while trying to retain for the public so much that is healthful, pleasant, and desirable as the free use of the most delightful pursuit (except one) under the sun? Why be beholden to landed proprietors for what is an old-established right? Let us not permit the grasping rapacity of needy, greedy man to come between us and what our ancestors claimed as a birth-right.

Stick up, sir. You can do it. Settle the Norfolk Broads first, and then go for freedom in

"The land of brown heath and shaggy wood—
Land of the mountain and the flood,
Of salmon and of trout."

—I am, &c.,
Glasgow.

C. ROSS.

[Scots wa' hae wi' Wallace bled! We naturally feel proud at being called upon by this genuine "Hielandman" to "stick" somebody; but this "sticking" is a far more expensive luxury nowadays than it was in the time of Rob Roy, though even then there was generally a fair risk of getting "stuck" yourself. However, if Mr. Ross will point out any particular Celt who wants touching up, we will have a go at him if we think he deserves it.—ED.]

A GREAT CARP.

SIR,—I went on Monday last to Walton-on-Thames to have a day's fishing with my fisherman, old George Hone. On my arrival he greeted me with, "Well, sir, I have got another big carp to show you, but it is not so big as the one you caught." He opened the well of his punt, and there was a splendid female carp which he had caught in his landing net.

The water rose very rapidly about a fortnight back, and at the end of last week fell very rapidly. On these occasions old George is always on the look-out for stranded fish, so that he may assist them back to their homes.

In the backwater at Walton in a shallow pool George saw the carp, and very cleverly put the landing net under the fish, and placed it in the well of his punt for my inspection.

We weighed the fish, which was full of spawn, and found it turned the scales at 9½ lb. After weighing it we returned it to the river again, close to the bough where I took the great carp in 1882, weighing 12½ lb.—I am, &c.,

ALFRED MACKILL, T.A.P.S.

Tenby Lodge, Kingston Hill, Surrey.

[Glad to hear you have not forgotten the promised day.—ED.]

FISHING NEAR DUBLIN.

SIR,—I go to Ireland next week, and should be greatly obliged by information as to any good fishing quarters accessible by rail from Dublin.—I am, &c.,

G. R.

[We presume you mean within two or three hours' railway journey; also what kind of fishing do you want?—ED.]

THE AIR BLADDER.

SIR,—I am constrained to say a few more words on this subject. The bladder taken from a 1 lb. roach, on being measured, was found to contain about 1 cubic inch of air (or other gas). I think other gas.

Now, the water displaced by a 1 lb. roach (assuming the fish to be of the same specific gravity as water—1.00) would be 27.6 cubic inches—let us say 27½ cubic inches.

Now, supposing the fish has the power of compressing the bladder to half its original bulk, he reduces the displacement of water 27 inches; but the weight of the fish is still equal to 27½ cubic inches of water, or 1 lb. The specific gravity would therefore be increased as 27½ to 27, or 1.01 the difference of .01 would be sufficient to allow the fish to sink with ease.

Further: the pressure of water at the surface is the same as the atmosphere, viz., 15 lb. per square inch; but at a depth of 32 feet that pressure is doubled, or there is an increase of 15 lb. pressure per square inch.

Now, you must perceive this of itself, without any volition on the part of the fish, would be sufficient to empty the bladder to a certain extent, and so gradually adjust the specific gravity of the fish according to the depth of the water or pressure which surrounded him; and, mark, whether with spawn or not. I mention this because there is no doubt, as J. Corrie, Esq., said in a recent number of the FISHING GAZETTE, there would be a greater pressure on the bladder when the fish is full of spawn.

It has been maintained by some that the fish has simply the power of inflating or exhausting the bladder. If this is so, it is easy to see how he may exhaust the bladder and sink to the bottom. But, may I ask, how is he, when there, to get the air with which to inflate his balloon when he wishes to ascend? Has he the power of making such gas?

But the total absence in some cases of any duct leading to the bladder makes me decline this theory.—I am, &c., MARK ANTONY.

[We must refer "M. A." to the description of the air bladder by Dr. Günther, which is the best extant. Some of "M. A.'s" questions would puzzle the learned Doctor himself. It is a great pity Jonah did not take notes when he was inside the whale; but even then they would not have satisfied "M. A.," for he will tell us with truth whales have not got air bladders. We might remind him that there are many ducts in his own body the use of which has never been explained.—ED.]

FISH IN PARK WATERS.

SIR,—The Liverpool Corporation asked the Birkenhead Parks Committee to allow them to take some fish from the Birkenhead park lakes to those of the Liverpool parks, and the committee passed a resolution to the effect that the curator of the Liverpool parks informed the Corporation of Liverpool that they will be allowed some small roach on condition that they provide an equivalent for the Birkenhead park lakes in the form of tench and perch, and also that the fish are caught and removed by the servants of the Liverpool Corporation, under the supervision of the assistant park superintendent.—I am, &c., Liverpool, Feb. 18. H. OLIVER.

CLUB AND OTHER JOTTINGS.

By L. B.

THE 11th annual dinner of the Good Intent Angling Society took place at the club house, the Crown Inn, Church Street, Shoreditch, on Tuesday evening, the 12th inst.; over a hundred members and visitors sitting down to do ample justice to the capital spread placed on the table by the worthy hostess, Mrs. Roberts. Mr. H. J. Tibbatts made a splendid chairman, being ably seconded in the vice by Mr. E. G. Meade; among the visitors being Messrs. P. Geen, S. Morgan, L. Bonvoisin, and T. Crumplen. After the removal of the cloth, and the honouring of the usual loyal toasts, the chairman rose to propose the toast of the evening: "Success and Prosperity to the Good Intent Angling Society," coupling the same with the name of Mr. R. Murphy, the hard-working and much-respected secretary.

Mr. Murphy, who on rising was loudly cheered, thanked the members and friends present for the kindly manner in which they had greeted his name. He was pleased to say that the society was in a most flourishing condition, and this he attributed in great measure to the right spirit which animated every member. When one of them had a grievance, or thought he had, he brought it before his brother members, and if it was just and well grounded it was set set right at once—this prevented the possibility of any ill-feeling. During the past year they had lost several members from death, removal to other neighbourhoods, and other causes; but others had taken their places. He was pleased to say they numbered one hundred and five fishing, and fifteen honorary, members. Out of this they had ninety who had joined that excellent institution, the Anglers' Benevolent Society; this represented over a seventh of the members enrolled on the books of the Anglers' Benevolent Society. He considered that the very poor support afforded to the Anglers' Benevolent reflected very little credit upon members of angling societies. In his own society he must disclaim receiving the whole of the praise for the result obtained. Mr. Hall, who had been elected to look after this particular department, had canvassed successfully, and had been particularly fortunate in getting new members to come within the beneficent fold of the A. B. Society. Mr. Murphy touched upon several other topics: the society's balance sheet was highly satisfactory, showing over £60 in hand; they had had some capital shows of fish, though the elements had been somewhat against them during the whole season. Mr. Murphy also spoke very strongly in favour of the unity of the London anglers, of time, money, labour, and leaders' and rank-and-file's zeal sadly wasted—winding up, amidst great applause, with the following words: "Such unity must come about; it is only a matter of time. Let every angler who has the interest of the sport at heart use his best personal endeavours to bring it about as soon as possible on a fair and just basis, and the man who opposes from personal and narrow motives, however clever and plausible he may be, is no friend to the anglers or angling interest."

Messrs. Geen, Bonvoisin, and Morgan responded for the West

Central, the East Central, and Anglers' Benevolent, each making some appropriate remarks. Messrs. Crumplen and Shingle for the honorary members (among whom the Good Intent are proud to count Mr. Harry Brookwell, the winner of a gold medal at the recent International Fisheries Exhibition for his magnificent collection of preserved fish), Messrs. Crumplen and Bonvoisin's names being also coupled with the toast of the Press, while the chair, vice-chair, the hostess (Mrs. Roberts—Mr. Geo. Wood responding to this toast), also elicited some very capital responses; but the speech of the evening was undoubtedly Mr. Murphy's, of which I have tried to give a brief résumé above.

After disposing of the toasts, the "band" came in, and songs and music became the order of the evening. I don't think I was the only guest present who left that room with the clear conviction that if there were more societies like the Good Intent, it would be a very grand thing for angling prospects, not only in London, but all over the country.

The visit to the Little Independent Angling Society on Monday last was a perfect success. Nineteen societies were represented, and some good songs given. Among the visitors were Messrs. R. Ghurney and L. Bonvoisin.

The usual monthly meeting of the West Central Association of London and Provincial Angling Societies took place at the Portman Arms, Great Quebec Street, Baker Street, on Friday evening, the 15th inst., Mr. L. Bonvoisin in the chair, Mr. Adeane facing him in the vice. After reading and passing the minutes of the previous meeting, the following business was transacted:—

Letter read from the Knights of Knightsbridge, notifying the Association that this club would henceforth be known as the Brompton Angling Society. The chairman and secretary of the Putney United attended to enrol that society, which, upon a proposition by Mr. Geen, seconded by Mr. Pears, was unanimously carried.

Application was made by Head River-keeper Thompson for a reward for a conviction recently obtained against a person snatching fish in the river Thames.

It was carried, upon a proposition by Mr. Green, seconded by Mr. Hotham, that £1 is. be given to Thompson, and Wright, who assisted him in gaining this conviction, to be divided between them. A similar application from Thompson, for a conviction obtained against another person for taking undersized perch, was dealt with in a like manner, the reward in this case being divided between Thompson and two other river-keepers.

The balance sheet of Mr. T. Hoole's accounts was then read by the secretary and vouched for by the auditors, Messrs. Adeane and Buttery; and, after some discussion, it was proposed and carried that the hon. secretary, Mr. Tibbatts, wait upon Mr. T. Hoole and obtain certain further explanation of the association's present liabilities, &c.

Mr. Green then gave an account of the audit of the Anglers' Benevolent Society.

Mr. Geen stated that fish culture and experiments in connection therewith would be carried on at the forthcoming Health Exhibition.

Mr. Geen also stated he had interviewed Mr. Hibbert, M.P., at the House of Commons, and in consequence of his representations the Freshwater Fisheries Amendment Bill had been altered in one of its clauses, increasing the size of the mesh of nets in rivers under boards of conservators from 2 inches to 2½ inches, and he hoped next year it might be even larger.

The roll was then called.

Votes of thanks to the president, chairman, vice-chairman, and secretary brought the meeting to a close.

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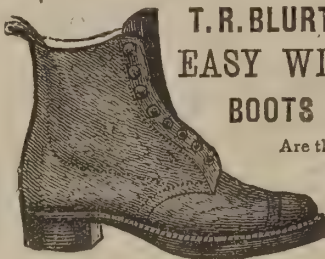
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Contributions are solicited, but the Editor will not undertake to return rejected MSS. unless accompanied with a stamped addressed envelope.

Correspondents are requested to write on one side of the paper only, and give their real names and addresses, not necessarily as signatures to their letters, but as a guarantee of good faith. Unless this rule be adhered to, no notice will be taken of such communications.

THE FISHING GAZETTE is published every Saturday, and can be obtained at Messrs. W. H. Smith and Son's Railway Bookstalls, and of the principal Newsagents and Fishing Tackle Dealers in London and the Provinces.

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The Fishing Gazette.

SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 1884.

PISCATORIAL SCRAPS.

By I. C. U.

THE audacious and, apparently, never-to-be-satisfied railway promoter is busy with schemes in Parliament which threaten ruin to many of the loveliest bits of scenery which this country possesses, and should he be permitted to work his will, more than one of the few remaining secluded spots to which jaded Englishmen turn for peace and quiet will be invaded and lost for ever. I notice that our friend, Mr. Francis M. Walbran, has taken up his pen to oppose one of these schemes, and appeals to anglers "to do all in their power to avert the ruin which is threatened to one of the most striking bits of Yorkshire scenery, and to preserve the rugged beauty and natural solitude of that lovely spot which the hand of Turner rendered famous for ever."

An innocent wants to know if the passing or rejection of private Bills by Parliament depends most on their merits, or on the amount of money at the disposal of the promoters! "I. C. U." has an opinion upon the matter which he declines to give without a fee; but he does not object to offer for what it is worth the opinion of that celebrated American swindler who tampered with the Scotland Yard detectives, and who told the judge before whom he was tried that everyone in this country had his price, and that it was only a question of figures. Of course, we know better than this; still, we must deplore the frequency with which men shut their eyes to the public good when asked to open their pockets for the reception of valuable considerations.

"Angling slang."—The Editor's note on this subject appears to have met with considerable approval, not only amongst anglers here, but also in America. *Forest and Stream*, after quoting the FISHING GAZETTE, says:—"If any correspondent, in giving an account of our fishing to some local paper, should call us a 'rodster,' he would forfeit our good opinion for ever. We do not know who coined this vile term, nor why, having been coined, others allow its use. Worse than this, if possible, is the phrase, 'chucking a bug,' for casting or throwing a fly. To speak of a gentleman as a 'bug chucker' may appear to some to be the very essence of wit, while to others it seems a coarse vulgarity. Slang may occasionally be effective in tersely describing in a word what otherwise would take a sentence, but it is usually a very transient thing, and stale slang has not only lost its savour, but the dose is nauseating." (Hear, hear.)

To learn that anglers on the other side of the Atlantic are equal sufferers with ourselves from inflictions of slangy words and phrases, is not a little disappointing to those who hoped that this stupid practice was confined to almost as small a circle as the would-be witty men amongst us, who, having quite by accident, or after much painful labour, given birth to a wee little joke, have from thenceforth devoted themselves to what would appear to be the only object of their sojourn amongst us. Unfortunately, these gentlemen have as great an objection to emigration as our Irish patriots, or I would suggest that we assist them to move

with their far too well rehearsed stock-in-trade to some portion of the globe where they could be seen and heard for the first time.

To be let, a private fishery within twenty miles of London, and near a railway station. The water consists of two miles of the largest branch of the river Colne, and is moderately estimated to be capable of affording first-class sport to a dozen rods. The holes and deeper portions are well stocked with roach, chub, perch, and pike, and the shallows with dace and trout, the latter varying from 2 to 10 lb. each. The river Colne is justly noted for the rapidity with which it replenishes itself with fish life, which is no doubt to be attributed to the fact that the properties of its water are such as to ensure a quicker growth than any other river in England. Its roach are considered to be perfect in shape, and frequently attain a weight of 2 lb. and upwards, and its dace are admitted to be amongst the largest and best sport-givers which we possess, while its chub stand unrivalled as specimens of their species. For terms of tenancy apply by letter to "I. C. U.," FISHING GAZETTE Office.

The Worshipful Company of Fishmongers have given a donation of £25 to the funds of the Thames Angling Preservation Society.

It is with pleasure I see that Mr. R. B. Marston, Editor of the FISHING GAZETTE, has been elected a vice-president of the flourishing Reading Angling Association "in recognition of his services in relation to fish culture."

The Health Exhibition at South Kensington is rapidly resuming a look of structural completeness, and will no doubt be quite ready by the date fixed for the reception of the exhibits. I am informed that the applications for space exceed three times over the amount left for disposal; on the other hand, the Aquarium Committee have a large amount of wall space, which they have determined to utilise for piscatorial exhibits of some kind.

Speaking of exhibitions reminds me of a curious incident in connection with the Fisheries Exhibition at Edinburgh. The chairman and treasurer of a suburban angling society who visited it together found the difference in climate so great that they were driven to all sorts of makeshifts with the hope of keeping their Southern blood in circulation, and had it not been for the kindly intervention of a friendly native, who suggested to them a trial of the national beverage, something very serious would have happened instead of something very comical. Our two friends, who had not expected so great a difference in the thermometer, proved themselves equally at fault as to the strength of the remedy prescribed by the Scotsmen, and this mistake resulted in their finding themselves some time during the small hours of a bitterly cold morning holding on to the iron railing which encloses a memorial to the late Prince Consort. At last it dawned on the least affected of the two that it was about time that they sought their temporary home, and with this view he called upon the treasurer to follow his chairman, and the treasurer, not wishing to be left behind, made truly noble efforts to proceed; but as he handed himself round rail by rail, and never ventured to let go both hands at one time, it is needless to say that his efforts were somewhat thrown away.

"Are you coming?" came across the square, making it evident to the treasurer that his leader was fast disappearing, and that there was nothing left for him but a desperate effort to show himself equal to the occasion; but strange to say, instead of letting go the iron railings, he attempted to climb over them, and had nearly succeeded in doing so when the chairman returned and requested to know what he wanted to get in there for. The reply not unaccompanied with tears was, "I can't get out; the beggars have locked me in."

When the announcement was made by I. C. U. that the Commons and Open Spaces Preservation Society, had determined to take up the question of public rights on the Thames, a number of people said that the only graceful act left to the Thames Rights Defence Association was to make up their accounts and hand over their balance to the first-named society. Others, having a better grasp of the situation, held that while such a course might become desirable, the time had by no means arrived when we could venture to advise the disbanding of a committee of gentlemen who had given time without stint, collected invaluable evidence, and rendered substantial service in more than one important case.

The wisdom of those who advocate a wait-watch-and-help The Commons and Open Spaces Preservation Society policy, has been amply verified by events, and it is more evident now

than ever that circumstances are likely to arise which will prove the necessity for such a body as the Thames Rights Defence Association. As evidence in confirmation of these views I have asked the Editor to publish in another column a circular which has been given to professional fishermen laying claim to another private fishery in the Thames, at Maidenhead.

While I was still writing the foregoing, a letter arrived which gave me some information of yet another claim. Mr. Bambridge, of Eton, has been interfered with while fishing near Clewer Mill. What say you, Thames anglers, to all this? Does it, or does it not, prove that there is no immediate hurry for asking the Thames Rights Defence Association to wind up? I learn that they hold their next meeting on Tuesday next, when it is hoped that every member will endeavour to be present.

A peep into the carriages of the 9.35 p.m. train from Reading on Saturday discovered not a few noted anglers on their way home from public, semi-public, and private waters. Those whose good fortunes had depended on the Thames met with little reward for the perseverance with which they fished its clay-coloured waters, while those who came from the Kennet and Lodden were equally unfortunate.

Mr. P. Geen and friend had fished a strictly preserved water near Oxford; but, in spite of great expectations at starting, only one fish was taken.

Messrs. Jardine and Brett were comfortably seated smoking and chatting away, after a hard day's work in a truly likely spot for monster jack; and although they had not succeeded in getting such a fish, they were pleased to say that they had two which weighed 10 and 7 lb. respectively. Need it be said that A. J. caught the biggest?

There appears to be but one opinion as to the desirability of altering the fence season for jack, so as to ensure their not being taken after the last day of February. Possibly, these fish have not been found so forward at this date for a number of years, and while I feel sure that no true sportsman will need this reminder to deter him from availing himself of the full term allowed by law, I fear a few may (more through ignorance than selfishness) go on fishing to the very last day.

I maintain that no club or club-man can justify the taking of any fish after the date fixed on by themselves as the proper time to commence the fence season for such fish; and as every club in London, and most of those in the provinces, have said that from the first day of March should be the fence season for jack, I for one shall expect to find that anglers are consistent in this matter, and that I shall not be able to say to anyone going to or coming from jack-fishing when the fish are nearly ready to spawn

I. C. U.

[The following is the letter sent to Thames fishermen by Mrs. Graham Smith, and referred to by "I. C. U." We have received copies of it from one or two quarters.—ED.]

(COPY.)

"ANGLING RIGHTS AT MAIDENHEAD.

"SIR,—Mrs. Graham Smith is the owner of three villas on the Berkshire bank of the River Thames at Maidenhead, and the grounds thereto attached, one of which is on the south side of the Great Western Railway, and has a small island nearly in the middle of the river, in the front of it, which she purchased a short time since of Mrs. Normansell's representatives, and the other two villas are between the Great Western Railway and Maidenhead Bridge, and were formerly occupied by Mr. Ouvry and Mr. Payne Collier. She also owns the islands in front of all these villas, and she occupies the villas and premises and the islands.

"She has the right of fishery over the whole of the River Thames opposite these various properties. She is very unwilling to be discourteous, but it is necessary that she should preserve the right of fishing in that part of the river which lies between the islands and the Berkshire shore, and also that part which runs up into the largest island in a sort of bay or inlet, and she must use all means in her power to prevent persons from fishing in the water indicated; but, while reserving to herself the full power of withdrawing any permission she may give, she will, as a rule, be disposed to permit fishing in the river on the Buckinghamshire side between the various eyots or islands and the Buckinghamshire banks.

"She hopes that you, as one of the fishermen who take people on the River Thames, will see that her wishes, which I have stated in this notice, will be respected.

"You are aware that if any person fishes in private waters (such as this has been declared to be) without permission, he can be summoned before a bench of magistrates and fined.

"Yours obediently.

"ROBT. A. WARD,"

THE DEE (ABERDEENSHIRE) FLIES.

(THIRD ARTICLE.)

WHENEVER, as recorded in the "Legend of St. Swithin,"

"The wide and wasting Dee
O'erflows its banks and sweeps its streams,
From Crathie to the sea,"

the veriest tyro, as well as the greatest adept, in the art recognises the full meaning of the truism that "fishing is of no use." Not only on such occasions, but also when the river runs high in consequence of the rapid thawing of snow on the hills, is the angler likely to arrive at an almost similar conclusion? Master Salmon is not then in his active or sportive moods—quite the reverse; in fact, we have observed that he is invariably rather lethargic in his habits when the river is snow-fed to any great extent. On such occasions any of his species that are hooked usually prove slow, sullen, and determined—most dogged in their resistance—long in exhausting themselves. How are we to dispose of his fact? Does it not tend to make us recognise that salmon, like the lords of creation, become depressed when the temperature is low? Like the "heathen Chinese," they are peculiar; their ways are "dark," difficult to divine. But this by the way. After a fresher or a heavy fall of rain in the early season, the water as it decreases in volume usually assumes a *drish* chalky colour for a few days. The nature of the light when a canopy of laden clouds is overhead renders this peculiarity particularly apparent. It is then that anything white or greyish in appearance seems to obtain the acme of favour. During the last two days of the first, and the first two days of the second, week of this year's spring fishing, there prevailed precisely such conditions of cloud and water as we have indicated. Accordingly it was found that flies having light-coloured or white wings, grey heron hackles, bright bodies, or any dressing that imparted the shades described, were used in general with much greater success than the best of their darker and more sombre-hued compeers.

Prominent amongst the hooks of this description, in the way of bringing success to the angler, were the "Whitewinged Tricolour," "Tartan," "Killer," "Grey Heron," "Ackroyds," and "Eagles." The introduction of the "Silver Grey," as a Dee spring hook is of quite recent date. Indeed, this year already it has been more used than ever it was before at this season. One day it does well; the next it is of no use whatever, and is therefore what we may term a very *uncertain* fly.

A hook called the "Marlie" that we imagined we had almost seen the last of, is beginning to revive in popular estimation. After having disappeared, and been apparently forgotten, like Ariosto's heroes, it comes to the front once more. "Sir Peter" is a very nice fly, not by any means new to the Dee, though the name may not sound familiar. We are to rank it amongst our standard patterns, because, being a good killer, it is certain to obtain a wide popularity soon. The "Robbie," a very excellent spring fly (fancy), may be said to have died out with its inventor, Mr. George Robbie, late land steward, Blackhall, than whom none could dress a Dee fly with greater exactness and finish.

A pupil of Robbie's himself, a very good fly-dresser, has kindly supplied us with a pattern of this hook, which we will afterward describe for the benefit of those who may wish to give the "Robbie" a trial. It is a fly well worth experimenting with, if appearance goes for anything. The "Badger" is a fly we consider would do pretty well in a subsiding water of almost any colour incident to the Dee. It is very fatal to grilse and sea trout in slightly discoloured water, and, if tried, might prove so to salmon also. "Dr. Corbet," or the "Minister of Drumoak," a favourite of long standing, is often used with good success in a moderate-sized water during the spring season. We have been shown a very attractive "Eagle" pattern, dressed for A. Muirhead Aitken, Esq., London, who is presently fishing the Riverston section at Banochry— a piece of slow-running deep water on which too large or showy a fly can scarcely be used when the river is heavy. This lure—a combination of the silver doctor and grey eagle—has not, to our knowledge, been previously used on the Dee. We therefore await the result of Mr. Aitken's experiment with considerable interest. It will no doubt be judged best that we should now complete our description of Dee spring flies, and reserve our notice of the standard patterns till next week. Meantime it is our desire to make it understood that any good killing patterns (with notes regarding them) forwarded to us through the Editor for inspection and mention, will be included in our final notice. We will now describe the "Killer," "Marlie," "Sir Peter," "Badger," "Lady Grace," "Dr. Corbet," and "Robbie," in their order.

"Killer": tag, silver tinsel; tail, red golden pheasant rump feather; body, yellow, blue, and scarlet mohair in equal parts; silver tinsel; grey heron hackle half down the body; red golden pheasant rump feather at shoulder, very light brown turkey wings; black head. "Marlie": tag, silver tinsel; tail, golden pheasant tippet; body, red and yellow mohair; silver twist; pea hen hackle down body; yellow cock hackle at shoulder; white turkey wing; black head. "Sir Peter": tag, silver tinsel; tail, golden pheasant rump feather; body, mixture of orange and yellow mohair; silver tinsel and gold twist; red cock hackle down body; mohair in body well picked out; cock hackle (dyed claret) at shoulder; mottled turkey wing of brownish tinge; black head. "Badger": tag, silver tinsel; tail, golden pheasant saddle feather; body, claret mohair; silver tinsel and gold twist; white cock hackle with black centre three-fourths down body; mottled (distinct black and white) turkey wings; black head. "Lady Grace": tag, gold tinsel and yellow floss; tail, golden pheasant saddle feather; body, one turn black and four turns orange mohair; gold tinsel; teal hackle dyed yellow; wing, white turkey dyed yellow; black head. "Dr. Corbet": tag, silver tinsel; tail, golden pheasant saddle feather; body, first half claret and green, second half claret; silver tinsel and gold twist; grey heron hackle; guinea fowl hackle down body; brown mottled wing with black tips; black head. "Robbie": tag, silver thread and yellow floss; tail, two golden pheasant topplings; butt bronze peacock herl; body, one turn light orange floss, remainder dark orange mohair; silver tinsel and gold twist; dark orange hackle from first turn; long grey heron hackle at shoulder; wing, fibres of bronze peacock herls, bustard, red blue and orange swan, and golden pheasant tail; jungle feather on either cheek; topping over all; red and blue macaw ribs; black head.

Had the various small spates that have occurred since the commencement of this year's fishing been due in a greater extent to the melting of snow than the falling of rain, it is safe to say that our record of sport obtained would have proved far less satisfactory. Though the best average results can be calculated on with certainty when the river maintains a pretty fair size and even flow for a week or two on end, anglers in general have little cause to feel disappointed with their sport on the Dee during the past fortnight, notwithstanding that the river moved up and down pretty frequently. Nothing gratifies us more than to hear of a continuance of successful angling.

W. M.

CLUB AND OTHER JOTTINGS.

By L. B.

THE principal piscatorial item of interest this week comes from Maidenhead, in the shape of a circular issued by a Mr. Robert A. Ward, on behalf of Mrs. Graham Smith, claiming for that lady the right of fishery over the whole of the River Thames opposite her various properties; but as the circular—which is addressed to, and has been received by, most of the professional fishermen in the neighbourhood, but really concerns the body of anglers who use the Thames and would wish to continue to enjoy it as a free river—will doubtless be published *in extenso* elsewhere in this journal, it is needless to quote further from it. I think all who peruse it will agree that never was a claim more boldly asserted; and let us hope that out of it will arise, before many weeks, such a test case as will either establish the claim or dispose of it once and for all. The Thames Rights Defence Association has considered the matter urgent, and called a special meeting of its executive committee to consider same for Tuesday, the 4th inst.

We have heard of driving a coach and six through an Act of Parliament, but this is as nothing compared with altering Conservancy By-laws (which in this case are practically Acts of Parliament) by means of pen-and-ink additions. The Conservancy and Preservation Societies' officials in several portions of the River Thames are exhibiting printed copies of the new By-laws, in which, in the clause prohibiting night fishing from a vessel, punt, or boat, the words "or bank" have been neatly inserted in pen and ink. Uttering base coin is criminal, defacing current coin of the realm is punishable; altering a by-law in this manner is simply laughable, and is practically, though not intended as such, an admission that the by-law will not bear the interpretation some disingenuous persons have striven to put upon it. It puts the extinguisher on Mr. Knight's sophisticated arguments even more conclusively than "I. C. U.," our Editor, and all those who have taken part in the controversy could hope to do, and it only remains for us to say, "Amen"; and if ever I am summoned for fishing in the River Thames at night—and I certainly intend doing so when the warm weather comes round again—shan't I just provide myself with a copy of these "ornamented" by-laws!

The monthly meeting of the United London Anglers' Central Committee will take place at the Bald-faced Stag Tavern, Worship Square, Finsbury, on Monday evening, March 3rd, Mr. S. Morgan in the chair.

The West Central Association's usual committee meeting will be held at the Portman Arms, Great Quebec Street, Baker Street, on Friday evening, March 7th. There are several matters of importance down for consideration, including the question of yearage and the presentation of the testimonial to Mr. T. Hoole, and the attendance of committeemen is particularly requested.

Undoubtedly trout are on the increase in every part of the Thames, and I last week heard of the capture by Mr. J. S. Tavenor, of the Falcon Tavern, Clapham Junction, while fishing (live bait) at Shepperton, of a fish estimated to weigh from 8½ lb. to 9 lb.; though not in good condition, it gave excellent sport. The fish was, of course, returned to the water—let us hope to recover, and afford future sport during the open season to Mr. Tavenor or some other lucky brother piscator.

I heard a very good thing the other night. Messrs. Buttery and Adeane recently went down to Wraybury, on behalf of the West Central Association, to audit Mr. Hoole's accounts. At the last meeting, after giving his report to the delegates, Mr. Buttery added the pleasing information that Mr. Hoole was very comfortable—had a beautiful home, a beautiful wife, and lastly, a beautiful baby. Of course, there was a general roar of laughter, in which the president, Mr. Geen joined heartily.

After the meeting, the following dialogue was overheard on the platform of the Metropolitan Station:—

Mr. Geen: Have you received the usual allowance for expenses for having audited Mr. Hoole's accounts?

Mr. Buttery: No, sir; not yet.

Mr. Geen: Oh, then, I shall propose you receive double, for in this case it appears you have not only audited Mr. Hoole's accounts, but also Mr. Hoole, his wife, and family—

'Stand back, there! First and second forward!! Third behind!!!'

REMARKABLE SUCCESS OF WINTER FISHING ON THE SCOTTISH COASTS.

AT the last meeting of the Scottish Fishery Board returns from the various districts were presented, showing that unprecedented success had attended the prosecution of the winter fisheries on certain parts of the Scottish coasts. In the Eyemouth district no less than ninety-two tons of haddocks were caught in one week, the value of which was nearly £1,300. The average earnings reached nearly £45 per boat, and during the season the total quantity of haddocks landed by thirty boats was computed at 924 tons, realising to the fishermen something like £12,666. This, it is estimated, would give an average yield and value per boat probably exceeding that for the corresponding period of any previous year. The Montrose fishermen met with similar success, the haddock fishing in that district rarely, if ever, having been so remunerative. In one week some of the crews realised from £36 to £45 per boat. The enormous hauls obtained for some time have not, however, been confined to haddocks. In the Anstruther district there were 12,365 crans of herrings landed in one week, during which 3,400 telegrams were dispatched, and 800 fish waggons loaded. At Wick in one week there were landed, in addition to an estimated catch of 941 crans of herrings, immense quantities of white fish, comprising about 16,443 cod and ling, 690 saithe, 10½ tons of plaice, 2½ tons of haddock, 2½ tons of halibut, 3½ cwt. of brill, 4½ cwt. of soles, 760 skate, &c.

CLUB REPORTS.

AMICABLE BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

The seven prizes left from the pegged-down match were competed for at the Rye House water, members to roam, Mr. F. Plumstead taking two, one for the heaviest roach, and the other for gross weight; Mr. Say, one prize; Mr. Partrick, one ditto; Mr. A. Plumstead, one; Mr. Worledge, two, one for the heaviest perch, and the other for fifth weight; Mr. Robinson, jun., roach; Mr. Dwelly, jack, roach, and dace. On the 2nd and 9th inst, the members will compete for a silver watch, 15s, and 10s. 6d., roach only, to fish anywhere.—J. WORLEDGE.

ANCHOR AND HOPE ANGLING SOCIETY.

On Feb. 17, several of our members were out, with the following result:—Mr. Daniels, roach; Mr. A. Davis, roach; Mr. Shaker, roach, 2 lb.; Mr. D. Davis, chub (all from the Thames); Mr. A. Glass, perch, 3 lb. 5½ oz., from the Lea, one perch scaling 1 lb. 4 oz.—D. DAVIS, sec.

ANGLERS' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

Since my last report I beg to acknowledge with thanks the undermentioned sums:—£3 3s from the Donation Box of the Good Intent Angling Society; £2 13s. 2d. from the St. Neot's Defence Fund; £1 1s., annual subscription from P. Geen, President of the West Central Association; 5s., annual subscription from J. Jennings, Bostonian Angling Society; and 3s. 6d. from the Donation Box of the late Critchfield Angling Society.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

CAVENDISH ANGLING SOCIETY.

On the 24th ult. a competition for six valuable prizes took place at St. Margaret's, conditions being peg-down, all fish to weigh. 17 members competed, with the following result:—Mr. Young, first, 1 lb. 12½ oz.; Mr. C. Elliott, second, 1 lb. 1½ oz.; Mr. Parsons, third, 4 oz. The remaining three prizes will be considered by the committee on a future day.—E. C.

CAXTON ANGLING CLUB.

The annual and opening meeting of members of the above club was held at the club house, White Swann Inn, Beccles, on Saturday evening last, when there was a fair muster of members; Mr. C. W. Bumstead in the chair, Mr. J. Hooker occupying the vice-chair. The secretary and treasurer were re-elected, and a committee of seven were appointed. Some slight alterations were made in the rules and conditions, the standard length of fish for weighing in standing same as last year, viz., 7 inches. After the business of the club was finished, Mr. J. Hooker, who has lately been elected on the committee of the Waveney and Oulton Fisheries Preservation Society, as the representative of the working man angler, brought forward a suggestion from his committee referring to the formation of a town club, which was as follows:—"That, it having been decided to form a club for the town and district, the sub-committee appointed by the Preservation Society to consider this matter, knowing the very able way in which the Caxton Angling Club was conducted, thought it possible that it, the Caxton Angling Club, might be a nucleus for the formation of a town club." Mr. Hooker said he was requested to bring this matter before the present meeting, in order to gain the opinion of members on the subject, and to report to his committee. The matter was very freely discussed, a kindly spirit pervading throughout; but it was thought by most members that the amalgamation would not work well, and the following proposition was duly carried:—"That it is the opinion of this meeting that the two clubs would not work well together; but, if the committee were unable to form a town club, the members of the Caxton Angling Club would reconsider the matter." The meeting dispersed at 11 o'clock.—A WAVENEY ANGLER.

CITY OF LONDON ANGLING SOCIETY.

Two members only weighed in fish on the 24th ult. from the Thames at Wraybury:—Mr. Chambers, 3 lb. 4 oz. of roach and dace, the heaviest roach 1 lb. 3¼ oz.; Mr. Castell also had a decent show of roach, dace, and gudgeons.—CAS.

COBDEN ANGLING SOCIETY.

On the 24th inst. a number of our members went out to various places, but the takes of fish, as a rule, were small in quantity. Mr. H. Giles was the most successful, with three jack, the largest nearly 5 lb., and the others about 2 lb. each. The only other fish worthy of notice was taken by Mr. Simpson, which was a roach of ¾ lb. Some nice dace were taken by several other members but they were not weighed in. The supper in connection with our match of the 17th inst., will take place on the 28th inst. in the society's club-room.—C. REEVES, sec.

DALSTON ANGLING SOCIETY.

The members of the above society fished off their pegged-down match at Harlow on the 24th ult., all the prizes being taken by the following gentlemen: McBurn, Legge, Lloyd, Slade, Eagles, Anders n, and Moseley.—S. MALBY, sec.

GOLDEN BARBEL.

Several returned to their old "swims," in the Upper Thames, on the 24th. Among those that weighed in fish were as follows:—Messrs. J. Roach, Allen, Green, Herrie, Lawford, Crow, and J. Stan'ou. The exhibits consisted of roach, perch, and dace.—PIXIE.

GOOD INTENT ANGLING SOCIETY.

There was a fair show of fish at our club on the 24th, Mr. G. Bates, with a tray of good dace; Mr. Bell, 15 lb. of roach; Mr. Maybury, roach; Mr. E. H. Meade, wound up the jack season with a handsome fish. The members fish for prizes on the 2nd inst., at Broxbourne. Our West Central return visit takes place on Monday next, March 3rd, when we hope to meet our brother anglers from both east and west. There will be a host of talent for the occasion.—R. MURPHY.

GREAT NORTHERN BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

On Thursday, Feb. 21st, Mr. C. Watling, sen., showed ten roach from the Lee, weighing 6 lb. Friday, Feb. 22nd, Mr. C. Watling, jun., showed 23 lb. 8 oz. of fine roach from the Lee, and Mr. J. Fitch 11 lb. 6 oz. Feb. 24th, Mr. J. Fitch two dace 1 lb., one roach 15 oz.; Mr. J. K. Fitch, roach 4 lb. 3 oz., one roach 1 lb. 5 oz.; Mr. G. Watling, roach 3 lb. 8 oz.; Mr. J. Cowper, roach 1 lb 13 oz.; Mr. Graves, 1 lb. 11 oz.; Mr. C. Warren, perch;

Mr. C. Watling, sen., perch, one fish 1 lb. 12½ oz.; Mr. J. Dingley, roach, 5 lb. 10 oz.; Mr. Theobald, 1 lb. 13 oz.; Messrs. Baker, J. Watling, and Wilkins, roach.—J. FITCH, Sec.

GRESHAM ANGLING SOCIETY.

The ordinary weekly meeting of the above society was held on Tuesday evening, the Rev. J. Walker, M.A., in the chair. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, and a quantity of correspondence disposed of. A letter was read from the Excelsior Angling Society, Kennington, inviting the members to a "return visit," on Monday next. Several members expressed their intention of being present if circumstances permitted. Mr. Parker entertained the meeting for a considerable time with his "Harmonograph." It will be remembered that this instrument was shown at the Conversazione, and attracted considerable attention. Mr. Parker had not an opportunity to explain the working of it on that evening, but on this evening gave a most instructive explanation of the machine. A vote of thanks having been accorded to the chairman, some very good musical selections brought the meeting to a conclusion.—H.

HOXTON BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

Thirty-four of our members fished at the Rye House water on the 24th inst. for ten valuable prizes, which were all won, 17 members showing fish, among which were some splendid roach going over 1 lb. each. Three jack only were taken, one 7 lb. 10 oz., one nearly 5 lb., and one that would not weigh according to our rules. The society have fished for 71 special prizes since the opening of our season, September 1st, 1883.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

IZAAK WALTON ANGLING SOCIETY.

Only two of the special prizes fished for on the 24th ult. were taken; the remaining one not taken will be fished for, with several others, on March 9 at Sawbridgeworth. Full particulars and conditions will be published next week. Messrs. G. Wood and B. Crook won the two special prizes for the heaviest weights of roach taken on the Wednesdays during February.—H. B.

LINCOLN ANGLING SOCIETY.

Our members went out on the 24th and brought in some nice bags of fish, our novice, Mr. J. Blyth, coming up to the front with the champion jack of the season, scaling 4 lb. 2 oz., and a very nice roach; our one-armed champion, Mr. Bingley, again coming in with a very pretty show of roach and dace, 4 lb. 7 oz.; Mr. Webb, "The St. Margaret's Hero," some fine roach, 2 lb. 2 oz.; Mr. Blenheim, "The Bruiser," roach. Our first annual supper takes place March 17th.—F. W. TODD, sec.

NORTH-WESTERN ANGLING SOCIETY.

A good many members were out again on the 24th ult., and in the evening the following members weighed in fish:—Messrs. W. and L. Roxbee, and H. Underwood, roach; W. Weaver, dace; C. Billings, perch; and C. Plumptre, jack.—W. HILLIER, sec.

NORWICH ANGLING CLUB.

This club held its annual pike match on Thursday, 21st ult., and through the kindness of one of the owners of those beautiful sheets of water called Broadlands in Norfolk, were enabled to have a very enjoyable and successful day. Starting by bus and three horses from our old friend, C. J. Greene's, London Street, the party of ten competitors were easily and swiftly taken to the rendezvous, and at about 10 o'clock commenced operations under the best of auspices. The morning was everything that a pike fisherman could wish; a good strong south-west wind, fairly cloudy and fine, with a sort of fishy smell in the air; yet notwithstanding the favourable state of the weather, and the unexceptional prospects, only 2 large pike were taken, viz., one by Mr. Mace, 13½ lb. (and 3 others smaller), and one by Mr. Greene, of 16 lb., good weight. Several others had some fair fish (nothing under 3 lb. weighing in, in our match), from 3 lb. up to 7½ lb. In some instances as many as 6 jack fell to the rod of the knowing ones, but their sizes were not up to the mark, and so they were out of the prize list. A word of thanks is due to the landlord, who, without naming him, is well known as about as good as they make 'em nowadays, and I am quite sure he will read these lines and be gratified that he pleased the party. I think one little item worth recording, that is, that I took from one of my jacks, of 7½ lb., a beam, which he had only partly gorged, and partly digested, and which I should estimate weighed 1½ to 1¾ lb. I noticed, when disgorging the hook, that the caudal fin of a fish was protruding from his gullet into his mouth, and made the remark to my partner, that he seemed a very greedy fish to attack a nice pretty dace before he had swallowed a previous dainty morsel.—R.M.

PHENIX ANGLING SOCIETY.

On the 24 ult. there were again a lot of members of the above society out trying their abilities. The weather turned out unpromising but members who were trying their favourite swims met with very good sport. Mr. Keen had a capital show of roach, 8 lb.; Mr. Grist had some very nice dace, three largest turning the scale at 7½ oz. each; Mr. Bartrip had two very nice perch, the largest turning the scale at 1 lb. 2 oz., in splendid condition; Mr. Slater, dace and perch. Other members were out, but not quite so successful. The next and last competition of the season will take place on March 9th, for a number of prizes, which will be decided at the next ordinary meeting of members, on Tuesday, March 4th. All members are requested to attend.—J. G.

QUEEN'S ANGLING SOCIETY.

The following members weighed in on the 24th inst.:—Mr. Pearce, jack; Mr. A. Chick, jack; Mr. Corney, jack; Mr. Walford, dace. The fourth annual dinner of the above society will take place at the Black Bull, Silchester Road, Notting Hill, on March the 26th. All tickets must be returned to the secretary on or before March the 20th, or they will be charged for. All members of the above society are earnestly requested to attend at the club-room on March the 5th, at 8.30 p.m. sharp.—L. WALFORD, sec.

READING AND DISTRICT ANGLING ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting and dinner of this association took place at the Great Western Railway Hotel, Reading, on Tuesday last. The annual meeting was first held under the chairmanship of Mr. James Simmonds, J.P., president. The following report and the cash accounts were read and adopted, and the president, hon. treasurer (Mr. C. Stephens, J.P.), hon. sec. (Mr. A. C. Butler), and auditors, and vice-presidents, were re-elected, and a committee appointed. The name of Mr. B. B. Marston, of the FISHING GAZETTE, was added to the

list of vice-presidents, in recognition of his services in relation to fish culture. An honorarium of £10 10s. was awarded to Mr. Butler (hon. sec.)

[Report of dinner is not to hand yet.—Ed.]

RODNEY PISCATORIALS.

On the 27th, a leg of mutton supper took place among the members and some friends of Mr. Marsh's. Mr. Arnsby presided, assisted by Mr. Marsh. Among the gentlemen present were Messrs. Marsh and Sons, Grant and Son, Barlow, Morbey, Liversage, Pyne, R. Smith, W. Smith, Diggins, Chantry, &c. On the removal of the cloth, Mr. Arnsby, in a few words congratulated those present and wound up with success to the "Rodney Piscatorials." Mr. Marsh next proposed "Our Friends," coupling with it the names of two gentlemen connected with "The Metropolitan," whose kindness and civility towards their employés entitled them to that amount of respect from himself and his friends there that evening. He would therefore ask all members to join him and his friends in drinking the health of Mr. Edward Lake, the proprietor, and Mr. Bailey, the acting manager, of the establishment. This having been done, harmony was commenced by Mr. Arnsby, followed by Messrs. Chantry, Pyne, Grant and Son, Liversage, Diggins, Mawbey. A friend obliged with Slade Murray's "Balaclava," Mr. R. Smith, "Paris Exhibition," Mr. Taylor, "Christmas Day in a Workhouse," "Christmas Tree," "The 15 Puzzle," Mr. Morris, "Far, Far Away." Several other gentlemen kept the ball rolling until it was time to retire. On the 24th, several members visited Staines, but the takes were very small, only Mr. Grant getting a look in. Mr. E. Pyne had a nice show of perch and dace from the Upper Thames.—PITE.

ROYAL GEORGE ANGLING SOCIETY.

On Sunday last a number of our members went out, but the takes, owing to the condition of the water, were not good. Messrs. Holden and Hughes brought home a fine fish from their favourite swims at Bourne End. Messrs. Sinclair, Hewett, and several others had fish from the "tidal waters," but nothing to boast about. Messrs. Wood and Rider paid a visit to Datchet, and were rewarded with a few very nice roach; but it required all the attention of the angler, what with the wind and the colour of the water, to meet even with little success. Several gentlemen were seen returning home without a fish. Our second smoking concert takes place on Tuesday night next, when we expect a big room. By the bye, I am told that some gentlemen belonging to a club at Hammersmith, while fishing from a punt at Richmond landed several mackerel, which can be seen at their club room. Can any of your correspondents give me any particulars in connection with the same? There seems to be a doubt about the matter in the mind of—W. H. R.

SOCIABLE BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

Our members visited Burnt Mill on the 24th inst., to compete for three prizes; the takes proving like the fish, very small, as only two prizes were taken. Mr. O. Lloyd taking first, and Mr. W. Woodhead, second. Mr. J. Taylor weighed in roach from the Lea, and Mr. T. Jones, a brace of pretty jack from the Stort. This closes our jack season.—W. S. W.

SOUTH-EASTERN ANGLING SOCIETY.

On the 24th ult. several members were out; a good show up at night in force. Four good trays of fish by Messrs. J. W. Smith, J. Allard, J. Smith, sen., and J. Smith, jun. Wednesday: an excellent meeting on this night; an election of one member took place, also a presentation from a member, Mr. Evers, of a case of fish set up by a member, Mr. Townsend. Our day's outing on March 2nd will be at Windsor; a peg-down match, each man to stick his swim. Six good prizes to be competed for. Place of meeting, Windsor Station, 9.30; train departure, 8.25 a.m., Waterloo; duration of fishing time, 11 till 5. It is hoped all who have given in their names will attend, as also many others.—F. H. H. WESTON, sec.

SOUTH LONDON UNITED.

The last fishing match of the season of the above society came off at Staines on the 24th ult. Seventy-three entered. There were seven prizes, ranging from £1 downwards. The takes were not very large, owing to cold wind and superfluity of water. The prizes were as follows:—Mr. Payne, 1st; Mr. Howes, 2nd; Mr. Hopkins, 3rd; Mr. Grant, 4th; Mr. J. Wright, 5th; Mr. Kirwan, 6th; Mr. Driver, 7th. The fish were weighed at the Swan, Staines Bridge. Host Jones made himself agreeable and everybody welcome. Not only did he give £1 to be fished for on the second Sunday in next season, but presented your humble servant with a rule for measuring the fish—a very useful invention that he has registered. On one side, the Thames measurement is marked; on the other, the ordinary inches. A number of our friends purchased them, the price, 1s., bringing them within the reach of all. Altogether a very enjoyable day was spent.—WM. ALLEN, hon. sec.

STOKE NEWINGTON ANGLING SOCIETY.

On the 24th inst., Mr. C. Martin weighed in roach, dace, and perch, the largest roach 1 lb. 1½ oz.; Mr. C. Robinson, roach, dace, and perch; and Mr. C. Whitmore, perch. The next meeting night will be Wednesday, March 5th.—T. GRETTON.

THE APPLETREEWICK, BARDEN, AND BURNSALL ANGLING CLUB.

The annual meeting of the members of the Appletreewick, Barden, and Burnsall Angling Club (Upper Wharfedale) was held on Saturday last, Feb. 23, at the Crescent Hotel, Ilkley. There was a good attendance of members. Mr. J. O. Burrows, of Leeds, was voted to the chair. The hon. secretary, Mr. T. J. Critchley, of Ilkley, read the annual report, which commenced by congratulating the members upon the continued prosperity of the club. The list of members was quite full, fifty being the limit, and there were thirteen applications for admission. Another length of water, immediately adjoining the club's preserves, had been secured, making the length of fishing about 14 miles, reckoning both sides of the river. The hatching-troughs at Ilkley, under the care of Mr. N. Chippendale, were supplied with about 4,000 Loch Leven trout ova. Mr. Geo. Demaine, of Drebbly, had also some troughs full of ova procured from local streams, and the watcher at Burnsall was also engaged with a set of troughs. If all are hatched out, and the fry turned into the preserves, it would make the total number of fry turned in during the past three years 100,000. The balance-sheet was presented by the treasurer, Mr. Thos. Crabtree, Ilkley. It showed that all the liabilities of the club had been met, and a balance of £28 0s. 8d. carried forward to the next year. Both the report and balance-sheet were adopted. A recommendation from the committee that the annual subscription should be increased half a guinea, making it now a guinea and a half, with an entrance fee of two guineas, was unani-

mously approved. The officers for the ensuing year were elected, secretary and treasurer being re-elected, and other club business transacted, after which most of the members took tea together. The season is reported as a very early one, and many of the members are looking forward with great hopes to the opening day, April 1st. Votes of thanks were passed to the landowners, the committee for the past year, and to the chairman of the meeting.—G.

THE PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

The usual weekly meeting was held at Ashley's Hotel, Covent Garden. Amongst the members present were Messrs. Pattison, Wheatstone, Hill, Gillatt, Gray, J. Huggett, Lemann, Sparrow, Fennings, Bennett, Brown, Harden, Hatfield, Beasley, Dr. Brunton, Adlington, &c. Mr. H. B. Brown was unanimously voted to the chair. The minutes of the previous ordinary meeting were read and confirmed. Mr. Robinson weighed in during the week 67 lb. of pike from public waters. Mr. Lemann called the attention of the society to a circular issued by the representative of Mrs. Graham Smith, of Maidenhead. The circular in question is the assertion of a private right of fishery along the frontage of this lady's property, the whole width of the river, from shore to shore, and stating that, although, as a rule, she will give permission to fish on the Buckingham side of the aits, she reserves the Berkshire side for her private use, and warns fishermen and others that they will be summoned before a bench of magistrates, and are liable to be fined. Several members spoke to the effect that they had fished there without molestation for very many years, and further, that if this private right could be insisted on it would be useless for the Maidenhead Association to further proceed with the stocking of the waters with trout. Altogether, the circular was looked upon with the greatest disfavour, and a copy of it will be forwarded to the Commons and Open Spaces Protection Society. Mr. Lemann was thanked for calling the attention of the society to the same. The hon. sec. (J. Lauder) laid on the table a Diploma of Honour from the chairman of the International Fisheries Exhibition for the black bass exhibited by this society. The chairman gave diverting experiences of jack fishing at Tempsford, on the Ouse. He was accompanied by Mr. Harden and Dr. Brunton. An animated discussion took place with reference to the obtaining of bait (live) for pike fishing, the supply in London being uncertain. Several of the members have their own aquaria, and keep them for months, thereby avoiding any difficulty. A special bait can, registered by our member, Mr. Adlington, was highly extolled by Dr. Brunton from a scientific point of view, as well as for the fact of keeping bait alive, with but little care, for months. The stewards of the forthcoming dinner at the Holborn Restaurant are getting their tables in order. The hon. secretary is also exerting himself, and the dinner is expected to be a great success. Mr. Huggett proposed the health of the chairman for the efficient manner he had carried out the duties of the evening. The chairman returned thanks, and the meeting terminated.—T. H.

A club competition will take place on Monday, March 3—1st prize, £4 4s.; 2nd prize, £2 2s.—for the first and second greatest weight of chub (not under 1 lb. each) taken by one member with one rod and line from public waters, and shown on the same evening in the club room before midnight.—JAS. LANDER, hon. sec.

UNITED BROTHERS' DEPTFORD.

On the 17th, only one member weighed in—Mr. George Bolton, 10ach and perch, from the Thames. On the 24th several members competed in the South London United fishing match at Staines, in which two members of the above Society proved successful. Mr. J. Payne carried off the first prize, with one barbel, weight 1 lb. 14 oz.; and Mr. J. Divers carried off the last prize. The next return visit of clubs on the South London United list will be paid the Excelsior, the Hope, Bird Street, Kennington, on Monday next, March 3rd, at 8 o'clock, when a good muster may be expected.—W. T.

P. S.—I have much pleasure in forwarding to Mr. H. Tibbatts, secretary of the West Central Association, 5s. on behalf of the above society for the Yarmouth Broads Fund.

WALTONIANS.

On February 24th, Mr. Hunt, roach, 6 lb. 12½ oz.; Mr. Roland, roach, 1 lb. 7½ oz.; Mr. Morgan, roach, 12 oz.; Mr. Packman, jack, 3 lb. 1¼ oz.; Mr. Malcom, roach, 1 lb. 10 oz.; one fish 1 lb. 12 oz.; Mr. T. Watkins, perch, 8 lb. 4½ oz.; jack, 1 lb. 14½ oz.; two fish, roach, 1 lb. 15½ oz.; Mr. Morris, roach, &c., 4 lb. 1½ oz.; Mr. Jukes, jack, 3 lb. 2¼ lb.—A. J. MARRIOTT.

THE ORCHY AND LOCH AWE.

At the last monthly meeting of the Manchester Anglers' Association, held at the Grand Hotel, Mr. E. G. Simpson, president, in the chair—the Rev. C. P. Roberts read a paper on "Fishing in the Orchy and the upper part of Loch Awe." The increased facilities for travelling of these days have opened out to numbers of our countrymen and countrywomen those charming spots in Scotland which formerly it was only in the power of few to visit. It is not for anglers to sigh over this; but though anglers are essentially a sociable class, they appreciate most in their fishing expeditions the society of those whose objects and interests are identical with their own; they scorn the company of those who accept the cynical definition of angling to be a process carried on by "a fool at one end and a worm at the other" of a rod and line, and there is no creature whom they love less than the tourist who "just takes a walk up the river to see how that fellow who's gone fishing is getting on." The Western Highlands of Scotland were long ago mapped out into the still existing tourist routes, but it was not until June that the coaches began to run; before that month posting was the only means of travelling, and its expense deterred nearly all but anglers and artists from penetrating into the glens, rivers, and lochs to ply their art in the spring. To those who can spare the time, Mr. Roberts recommends the route by steamer from Liverpool to Greenock, from which place or from Glasgow steamers ply regularly to various parts of the Western coast. Perhaps the most picturesque route is by steamer to Lochgoilhead, whence a coach carries you over a steep intervening hill between Lochgoil and Loch Fyne, passing through Hell's Glen, on its way to St. Catherine's, where you cross the head of Loch Fyne in a small ferry steamer to Inverary, thence post fourteen miles through the charming Glen Aray, skirting Loch Awe during some portion of the last six miles, obtaining at intervals some beautiful glimpses of its island gems, and if you like to ascend a small hill on the right, on which stands Duncan's monument, erected in honour of a local bard of that name, you get a bird's-eye view far away down the 26 miles which Loch Awe stretches towards the S.W., and a

magnificent view of many-corried Cruachan across the loch, as well as of the other mountains and hills which hem the Glen Orchy, through which runs the river Orchy, past Dalmally, which with the whitewashed tower of its church, its comfortable hotel, and groups of bothies, you see nestling in trees two miles beyond and below you. The Orchy, which is the main feeder of Loch Awe, comes from Loch Trella—a small loch near to which is the Inveroran Hotel, in the district of the well-known Black Mount deer forest. The length of the river is about 16 miles. The fishing of the upper half, from Orchy Bridge to the falls, is in the hands of the landlord of the Inveroran Hotel, whose guests fish free of charge; the lower half, from the falls to the loch, the landlord of Dalmally Hotel has the fishing in for three days a week, Sir John Lawes taking the other three days, but not infrequently he does not exercise the right, and the guests at the hotel can then fish every day. Salmon commence in March or April to run up from the sea through the river Awe, which drains the loch, through four miles of the loch itself, and into the Orchy; until the middle of May they seldom or never go beyond the falls, although there may be plenty of water to allow of their ascending, and no obstacle to impede their progress except their own incomprehensible instinct. After the middle of May they seldom tarry in the lower portion, but hasten on to the Inveroran pools. The best time, then, to visit Dalmally for salmon fishing is March, April, May; and to visit Inveroran June, July, August, and September. Another curious illustration of the instinct of the salmon is furnished by those which frequent the rivers Awe and Orchy. Although the Orchy fish pass through the Awe, they are seldom caught in it, and the Awe fish are never caught in the Orchy: the different fish are easily distinguished by those who frequently see them, for those of the Awe are shorter and thicker than those of the Orchy. As in other rivers, the Orchy is best after a spate, and Mr. Roberts recorded what under favourable circumstances was sometimes done in the river by an angler. On April 21st, 1882, "there had been heavy rain for two consecutive days, which had caused a flood that prevented the nets being set; on the Thursday, the hotel day, I went up with two others, and although the river was too high and discoloured, we managed to bring back six fish. Next day, Sir John Lawes had given Mr. Montague Campbell his right to fish, so he had the water to himself. He went up with a gillie about eight o'clock in the morning, and returned at eight p.m., with the magnificent result of sixteen fish weighing in the aggregate 242½ lb." These fish Mr. Roberts saw weighed and they scaled 18, 13½, 11½, 13½, 21½, 13, 22, 11, 13½, 13½, 13, 21, 21½, 15, 10½ and 10½ lb. Every day is not like this, there is many a blank, disheartening day when the water is low and the fish won't rise. The Orchy is not now frequented by trout in large numbers; the pike, which some time since were put into Loch Tulla, having made their way into the stream and Loch Awe; but if they have spoilt trout fishing, the sport they themselves afford at a time of the year when few trout are to be caught anywhere, makes some compensation, and Mr. Roberts has taken one here which reached the large weight of 23½ lb. As well as pike, good perch fishing is to be had on the sandy banks at the mouth of the river; little skill is required to beguile these silly fish; the slightest bit of worm is sufficient if they happen to be in a taking humour. Neither do they give much sport when hooked.

THE ST. NEOT'S DEFENCE FUND.

I beg to forward for publication the result of the subscriptions to the above fund, with the account of expenses, &c.

BALANCE-SHEET.

CR.	£. s. d.	Dr.	£. s. d.
Mr. Hoare	0 5 0	Postage	0 8 7½
Ealing Dean Piscatorials A. S.	0 5 2	Legal and Incidental Expenses	12 7 2
Act on the Square	0 5 0	Printing	1 4 6
Sportsman	0 17 6	Time and Costs, Defendant	
London and S. W. Railway	0 16 6	Hopkins	1 1 6
Hearts of Oak	1 0 4	Stationery	0 2 6
Burdett	1	Balance Paid to Anglers' Benevolent Society	2 13 2½
Wesbourne Park Convi-			
vials	0 10 0		
Brothers Well Met	0 9 0		
Piscatorials	0 10 0		
Acton Piscatoria's	0 5 0		
Waltonians	0 10 0		
St. Alban's	0 5 0		
Dalston	1 5 0		
Hoxton Brothers	0 11 0		
Cavendish	1 8 0		
De Beauvoir	0 11 6		
Izaak Walton	0 10 0		
United London Anglers' Central Committee	5 5		
Collected by Mr. H. Collins	0 12 0		
Mr. Ofield	0 1 0		
Mr. Hopkins, sen.	0 2 6		
Mr. Wilding	0 1 0		
Mr. Hawly	0 2 6		
Mr. Byford	0 2 0		
Mr. Winch	0 2 6		
Mr. T. Harris, Stoke Newington A. S.	0 1 0		
Mr. G. Riches	0 1 0		
	17 17 6		17 17 6

A committee meeting was held at the Ruston Arms, Ruston Street, New North Road, on Wednesday evening, February 27th, Mr. J. Wainwright in the chair, when it was resolved to issue a balance-sheet of cash received up to that time. Several other amounts have been promised, which, when received, will be duly published. The committee beg to thank those gentlemen and angling societies for their prompt and liberal support in the defence of their brother anglers. A hearty vote of thanks to Mr. J. Wainwright for his kindness in bringing the case before the London anglers concluded the business of the meeting.—A. WILLIAMS, secretary, Hearts of Oak Angling Society.

N.B.—Any further subscriptions will be thankfully received by J. Wainwright, 6, Northport Street, Hoxton, N.

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beautifully finished and of exquisite workmanship. Equal to any watch sold at Four
Guineas.

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Equal to any watch worn by ladies of title. West End houses are charging 5 Guineas
for similar watches without the keyless movement. Marvels of Cheapness. Sent on ap-
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"Art, empire, earth itself, to change are doomed."—THE HERMIT.

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N.B.—We take no responsibility whatever in connection with advertisements inserted
in this or other parts of this paper; but beg our readers to expose any case of im-
position. The prices for inserting advertisements in this "EXCHANGE"
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Address Manager, FISHING GAZETTE, 12 and 13, FETTER LANE, LONDON, and send
stamps with the order, or the advertisement cannot be inserted.FOR SALE.—Eggs from blue hens mated with pure pile game cock, to breed
"honeydun" and "rusty blue" chickens. 3s. 6d. per sitting of thirteen.—S. Howarth,
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Must be in good condition.—Address Editor, FISHING GAZETTE, 12 and 13, Fetter Lane,
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cost 50s., price £1. M. E. Hosken, 49, Cazenove Road, Stoke Newington, N.
A few boxes of very choice Havana Cigars, 1875 tobacco. 16s. per box of 50. Car-
riage Free. Send P.O.—E. T. Cluse, 11, Portsea Place, W.WANTED.—A large quantity of Starling wings at once, clean and cheap; also land-
rail, blackbird, and other wings.—Apply G. Holland, 4, Cooke Street, Failsforth, near
Manchester.FOR SALE.—A quantity of rough pluckings of fowls' heads, &c., 6d. per plucking. No
blues. Apply to J. Kowe, Barnstaple.FOR SALE.—A Box containing 30 gross (hens) Hackles, Blues, all shades, with
honeyduns. Price £3 10s. (seventy shillings).—Address Hackle, care of Editor of this
paper.Trout flies, Blue Duns, March Browns, Woodcocks, &c., &c. Sample dozen, 13 stamps,
two dozen, 1s. 9d. Pickersgill, 26, Bingley Street, Leeds.HEATH'S FERN PORTFOLIO.—Her Majesty the Queen has graciously accepted
Part I. (representing the Royal Fern) of Mr. Francis George Heath's "Fern
Portfolio."

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RIVER REPORTS.

TIME OF HIGH WATER IN THE THAMES.

To find the time of high water in the Thames at any of the following places
to the time of high water at London Bridge (given below).

	30 minutes for Chelsea.
Add	40 " Putney.
	45 " Hammersmith.
	50 " Barnes.
	55 " Kew.
	75 " Richmond
	80 " Twickenham.
	85 " Teddington.

Example:—If it is high water at 2 o'clock at London Bridge, it will be high
water at Teddington about 3.25, or eighty-five minutes later; but it must be
remembered that a strong wind accelerates or retards the tide very much.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.

		Morning.	Afternoon.
For Saturday, March	1	4.10	4.31
Sunday, "	2	4.52	5.12
Monday, "	3	5.32	5.55
Tuesday, "	4	6.20	6.46
Wednesday, "	5	7.14	7.47
Thursday, "	6	8.24	9.6
Friday, "	7	9.53	10.38

Probable High Tide, March 1 and 2.

THE LOWER THAMES.

GENERAL REMARKS.

Anglers must bear in mind that Friday, the 14th of March, is the last day for
fishing in the general angling season; and all persons will do well to remember
that after then the sale of freshwater fish, no matter where they have been
taken, is strictly prohibited under the Freshwater Fisheries Act of 1878.
The river is in fair condition, and in the limited time the anglers should be at
work.

Richmond.

Christopher Brown, in one day, 5 lb. of roach; Henry Wheeler in four days,
25 lb. of roach and dace; Job Brain, in the same time, 40 lb. of roach and
dace, a bream of 2 lb., and another of 1½ lb.; Henry Howard, in two days,
thirteen dozen of roach and dace.The following takes of bank anglers have been registered.—Mr. Blake, 1½
dozen; Mr. Skelton, 1½ dozen; Mr. Gibbons, one dozen; Mr. Hymes, two
dozen; Mr. Weberley, 2½ dozen, and Mr. March, two dozen, at the Jolly
Anglers; Mr. C. Smart, a barbel of 2 lb. 10 oz.; Mr. Conroy, fifteen dace; and
Mr. Keep, 1½ dozen of dace, at the Waterman's Arms.

Twickenham.

George Coxen, in four days, forty dozen of dace; John Coxen, jun., in one
day, five dozen of dace; John Coxen, sen., eight dozen; George Chamberlain,
during the week, 275 dace; John Spong, in two days, with Mr. Marsh
and friend, two dozen of dace; another day, with Mr. Keys and friend, five dozen;
and another day, six dozen.J. Spong, with two gentlemen, on the 24th ult., eight dozen of roach and
dace; Mr. Johnson and Spong, on Wednesday, six dozen dace; J. Spong,
with Mr. Godfrey and Mr. White, in four hours, 27 lb. of fine dace; Mouse
and two gentlemen, one and a half dozen of dace. Water in good condition.
—W. WALKER.

Teddington.

Benjamin Stevens, in one day, three dozen of dace, and Charles Baldwin, 2½
dozen. The water is very much discoloured at present. Mr. A. J. Edwards,
fishing from the bank, good 45 dace. The report adds, "I saw some of the
handsomest dace caught to-day by some of the bank anglers between Tedding-
ton and Twickenham as anyone could wish to see."

Kingston.

John Johnson, jun., has been out one day, and taken two dozen of roach.
The bank anglers at Kingston, Moulsey, Hampton, and Sunbury have been
getting some good roach, dace, and perch. The reports from Moulsey,
Hampton, and Sunbury are, "None of the fishermen have been out this last
week, and they say no one comes to go out. The water is a little higher and
something the worse in colour."

Weybridge.

Mr. Beatley has been out one day and got a brace of jack.

Chertsey.

James Haslett has been out two days, one with Mr. J. L. Meyers, and got
one perch, and some fine roach; and another day, with Mr. Smith, two bream
and some roach, legering. James Haslett, jun., with Mr. Jenkins, one bream,
a perch of 1 lb.; and some roach up to 1 lb. each.

Staines.

John Keene, in two days, six chub and two dozen of roach and dace; Mr.
Jones, of the Swan Hotel, four chub; and Charles Hone, in one day, seven
chub.

UPPER THAMES.

Anglers to the Thames seem wonderfully backward in coming forward, considering the fair fishing trim of the river for the time of the year, and the short time to elapse before the season 1883-4 will be a thing of the past. At Medmenham there has been a nice take, of 11 lb., of chub; And at Hurley, Mr. Hockley, with Windsor Grey, has bagged two jack, of 3½ lb each, and a pound perch. Mr. Wilson, fishing from the East Arms on the 24th inst., got a pretty five dozen of roach, perch, and gudgeon, returning, in his usual sportsmanlike style, several dozen of small fish.

Thursday evening: Interviewed Father Thames, and found him in a brightening condition, and dropping down to normal height. Jack, perch, roach, and chub will now reward the "braves" who do not mind the wind which is "neither good for man nor beast."—MARLOW BUZZ.

Goring.

Have nothing to report this week. Water has been so bad, no one has been out, but water now in good order for all-round fishing prospects at present look good for the next few days.—JOHN RUSH.

Sonning.

Once more the water getting in good order for all-round fishing. Just before the last rain there were some good perch taken. I was out with Dr. Lewin; we got some dozen, which we marked and put back again. It speaks well for the future. How it should be that so many small perch should be now, I can't make out; it don't matter where you try, you get them. By Saddler's at the lock, a trout of 9 lb. 10 oz. is seen most days; they seem to say it is the one that was caught out of season last year. They placed it back, it then weighed 8 lb. Pike are very heavy in spawn.—WM. HULL.

Eynsham.

After sending my report last week we had the water come down very thick, owing to heavy rains; but it has gradually cleared again, and several good takes of fish have been had. The Evenlode has yielded us the most sport, several jack being caught live-bait fishing. I was out on Wednesday afternoon, with two others—we took twenty-seven perch, the heaviest 2 lb. 6 oz.; and on Thursday I took some good perch and roach. Mr. Geen on Thursday took nine chub, weight 21 lb, with pith, in the Evenlode.—W. B. HOWE.

Oxford.

Last week I visited the upper reaches of the Thames, where I found amongst other items of interest an otter had been killed a few days previously at Lord Radnor's estate on the Cole, a beautiful little tributary entering the Thames, about a mile above the Round house, at Inglesham. My intention of tramping the thirty-six miles of river between Oxford and Lechlade was frustrated by the muddy state of the river and the pleasing intelligence, at Eynsham Bridge, that the country round Batlock was flooded. Making the best of a bad job, I walked up the village to see my friend Mr. How, the landlord of the Swan Inn, one of the best and cheapest houses on the river. Disappointment No. 2 now occurred. Mr. Geen had not arrived. Five o'clock came and so did Mr. Geen, and I passed a very pleasant time in his company till nine, when I set out for the station. At Lechlade I put up at the Trout, a regular fisherman's paradise, where I stayed till Tuesday evening. On Monday I had a struggle with a brace of trout in the Letch, but lost both through the triangles of my Devon minnow being, as I found on a subsequent examination, blunt at the point. In the afternoon I went on a tour of examination to the lakes of Buscott Park, four magnificent sheets of water, containing innumerable fish and fowl. In the Oxford waters the fishing has been fairly up to the mark. On the Evenlode, on Friday, Mr. Harriss bagged a roach weighing 1 lb., a perch of 2 lb., and a jack of 4 lb. On the Cherwell, in the week, Messrs. Dickinson and Davis had twenty-three jack, seven-teen falling to the share of Mr. Dickinson, and six to Mr. Davis, the biggest fish being 5 lb. In the Thames, on Tuesday, three jack, weighing 8 lb., were taken at Louse Lock, and on Wednesday, Mr. Shurland and his son caught two jack, weighing respectively, 6 lb. and 3 lb. The Cherwell was netted by Berkley the fisherman a few days ago, and in one draw they had 2 cwt. of roach and perch, many of the fish being over 2 lb. A jack of 17 lb. was also taken, and one of about 7 lb., during the night, threw up a trout of 2½ lb. Several trout have been lately taken in the Cherwell.—MEDLEY TROUT.

Avon (Binton, Bidford, &c.)

The river offers every attraction to anglers, but the latter appear reluctant or unable to take advantage of them, for I have heard of nothing being taken worth chronicling. Several club members, I understand, intend to try their fortune towards the end of the week, so that I anticipate hearing of "some thing to their advantage" for insertion in my next.—J. E. B.

Ballynahinch.

For the last week weather has been more changeable. This three days it has been blowing an east wind, which is very much against angling here. Last Saturday 23rd, Mr. Anstice had a very good day's sport: he succeeded in killing four spring salmon weighing 54 lb, two 14 lb. each, one 15 lb., and one 11 lb., and lost one. Again on Monday, 25th, got one 12 lb. We tried it on last Friday, and succeeded in getting one 11½ lb. To-day we have a slight fresh; glass falling gradually this last thirty-six hours.—WALTER BLACKADDER.

Chichester.

More seasonable weather has been experienced the past week, early morning and evening being cold and bracing. Perch have fed better, some good fish having been taken taken near Birdham. Pike seem shy, nothing noteworthy coming to hand. Bream run small as well as roach, 2 lb. being the largest bream recorded. The water at Selham is in good condition. A pike of 6½ lb. was landed near the Bridge on Tuesday—one of the many to be seen in that locality. The close season is at hand, but I trust to be enabled to chronicle some better sport ere then.—GEORGE F. SALTER.

Coquet (Weldon Bridge).

There has been some very cold weather for the last few days, and this morning (Thursday) the hills are all covered with snow, which will stop the fishing for a few days.—A. GLASS.

Dee and Don (Aberdeenshire).

Fishing both with the rod and the net has been fairly successful during the past week. During the first three days, netting operations were attended with

gratifying results; but during the remainder the catches, owing to the fineness of the weather, declined perceptibly. Rod-fishing was keenly pursued, and anglers proved fortunate on the whole. Bating the spate of Thursday, and a rather heavy water on Friday, the river was in fairly good trim during the rest of the time. One or two of the fisheries were not in good fishable order, particularly those of Borrowstone and Woodend, ren'd respectively by Walter D. Leslie, Esq., of Drumrossie, and Major John P. Traherne. Mr. A. Muirhead Aitken's water at Riverston was also altogether too heavy for yielding sport. Minnow-fishing, as heretofore, has proved more effective on the upper than on the middle or lower reaches. Large fish are beginning to run. Several almost reaching 30 lb. were caught in the nets during the week. Reports to hand—Dee Netting:—Raik and Mid Shingle, 185; Pot and Fords 250; Bridge of Dee, 18; Weil, 15; Polldown, 25; Waterside, 36; Inchgarth, 68; 597 in all. Don Cruives, 120; Mugiemoss, 58; Grandholm, 62; 240 in all. Last week's rod-fishing—Park and Durriss District: Blairs—Tuesday, Mr. Mercer, 1 salmon, 9½ lb. Kingcausie: A. Irvine Fortescue, Esq., Monday, 2 salmon, 8 and 9½ lb. Drum: General Irvine, Monday, 2 salmon, 8 and 10 lb.; Tuesday, 1 salmon, 9 lb.; Wednesday, 1 salmon, 11 lb.; Saturday, 1 salmon, 9 lb. A. Muirhead Aitken, Esq., London, 1 salmon, on Friday, 9½ lb. Durriss Home Water.—Dr. Macdonald, Aberdeen, Monday, 1 salmon, 9 lb.; Tuesday, 1 salmon, 9 lb.; Wednesday, 1 salmon, 13 lb.; Friday, 1 salmon, 9 lb.; Saturday, 1 salmon, 9 lb. Dr. Oliphant, Imperial Hotel, Friday, 1 salmon, 13 lb.; Saturday, 1 salmon, 11 lb. General Macintyre, Monday, 1 salmon, 10 lb. C. Hayne, Esq., Saturday, 2 salmon, 12 lb. each. Park, Saturday, Major Carnegie, 1 salmon, 12 lb. Riddell, keeper, Monday, 2 salmon, 8 and 9 lb.; Tuesday, 1 salmon, 15 lb.; Wednesday, 1 salmon, 8 lb. Banchory District: West Durriss.—Monday, Colonel Hills, 4 salmon, 7, 9, 9, and 10 lb.; Tuesday, 2 salmon, 7 and 9 lb.; Wednesday, 1 salmon, 8 lb.; Friday, 2 salmon, 8 and 9 lb.; Saturday, 1 salmon, 8 lb. Major Gordon, Tuesday, 2 salmon, 7 and 8 lb. Inverey.—General Oliphant, R.E., Tuesday, 1 salmon, 9 lb.; Friday, 1 salmon, 9 lb. A. Wright, Monday, 2 salmon, 9 and 11 lb. Banchory Lodge.—Monday, Andrew Craven, 2 salmon, 8 and 9 lb. Lower Crathes.—Captain Malcolmson, 2 salmon, 8½ and 9 lb.; Wednesday, 1 salmon, 7½ lb.; Saturday, 2 salmon, 7 and 9 lb., A. Grimbly, Esq., London, Tuesday, 1 salmon, 12 lb. Kneskie.—A. Grimbly, Esq., Monday, 3 salmon, 8, 8½, and 10 lb.; Wednesday, 2 salmon, 8½ and 11½ lb. Captain Malcolmson, Tuesday, 1 salmon, 8 lb.; Friday, 1 salmon, 8½ lb. Lower Blackhall.—Wednesday, Mr. John Pirie, land steward, 1 salmon, 15 lb. Inchmarlo.—Tuesday, T. Barbour, Esq., Nottingham, 3 salmon, 7, 9, and 11 lb.; Wednesday, 4 salmon, 8½, 10, 10, and 11 lb.; Friday, 1 salmon, 6½ lb.; Saturday, 1 salmon, 9 lb. Sluie.—Monday, Dr. Wright, 1 salmon, 10 lb. Cairnton.—Monday, D. Rae, 3 salmon, 8 to 12 lb.; Tuesday, 9 and 11 lb.; Wednesday, 2 salmon, 8, 9 lb.; Friday—Farley, Esq., London, 5 salmon, 8 to 14 lb.; Saturday (along with Major Traherne), 5 salmon, 7 to 14 lb. On Woodend Fishery, Major Traherne landed 3 salmon during the week, scaling 7, 9, and 10 lb. (water too high for this reach). Kincardine O'Neil District.—Report of Messrs. Blacklows and Son, fishing tackle manufacturers, Community:—J. Mortimer, keeper to W. E. Nicol, Esq., 0 Ballogie, Monday, 2 salmon, 8, and 9 lb.; Wednesday, 1 salmon, 12 lb. Friday, 1 salmon, 9 lb. Borrowstone.—Walter D. Leslie, Esq., of Drumrossie, Saturday, 1 salmon, 8½ lb.; J. Harper, keeper, Monday, 1 salmon, 8½ lb. Norton House Water.—Major Charles Leith-Hay, Monday, 3 salmon, 6½, 8½, and 11½ lb.; Tuesday, 2 salmon, 7½ and 9½ lb.; Wednesday, 3 salmon, 7½, 8, and 10 lb.; Friday, 1 salmon, 6½ lb.; Saturday, 1 salmon, 9½ lb. Nicoll keeper, Monday, 1 salmon, 7 lb.; Tuesday, 2 salmon, 9½ and 10 lb.; Wednesday, 1 salmon, 14½ lb.; Saturday, 1 salmon, 10½ lb. Ballogie.—Hon. William Arbuthnot, Tuesday, 2 salmon, 9 and 9 lb.; Wednesday, 1 salmon, 9 lb.; Friday, 1 salmon, 11 lb.; Hon. David Arbuthnot, Monday, 2 salmon, 10 and 11 lb.; Wednesday, 2 salmon, 7 and 8 lb. Carlogie.—Sir William Chaytor, Tuesday, 2 salmon, 9 and 10 lb.; J. Mitchell, Esq., Tuesday, 1 salmon, 11 lb.; Scott, keeper, Wednesday, 1 salmon, 8½ lb.—Desswood.—Admiral Farquhar, Carlogie, Tuesday, 1 salmon, 6½ lb.; Mr. John Harper, Wednesday, 1 salmon, 9½ lb.; Saturday, 6 salmon, 8½, 9½, 10, 10½, 10½, and 12 lb. Messrs. B. and Sons report the "Gordon" to be the most deadly lure in their district. Aboyne District: Huntly Arms Water.—Sir Herbert Lewis, Thursday, 1 salmon, 13½ lb.; Saturday, 2 salmon, 7 and 9 lb.; J. Wason, Esq., Monday, 2 salmon, 7 and 8 lb.; Wednesday, 1 salmon, 7 lb.; Friday, 2 salmon, 9 and 8 lb.; J. Findlayson, for F. Sandison, Esq., Tuesday, 1 salmon, 11 lb.; Saturday, 1 salmon, 8 lb.; John Ferguson, Esq., Advocate, Aberdeen, Saturday, two salmon, 10½ and 13 lb. Aboyne Castle Water.—The Most Noble the Marquis of Huntly, 9 fish during the week, 8 to 14 lb. Glentanar Water.—About 20 fish were landed during the week, ranging in weight from 7 to 15 lb.—Wm. Cuniffe Brooks, Esq., M.P. Ballater District.—Mr. George Smith, saddler and tackle maker's report: Cambus o' May Lodge Water.—H. L. Gaskel, Esq., "Very good sport; number and weight not to hand." Invercauld Arms Water.—Monday, J. Muller, Esq., London, 1 fish, 20 lb.; Wednesday, 1 fish, 9 lb.; Thursday, 1 fish, 11½ lb.; Friday, 5 fish, 6½, 8½, 9½, 10, and 11½ lb.; Saturday, 2 fish, 8½ and 17 lb. Pannanich Water.—A. Grant, keeper to J. T. Mackenzie, Esq., of Kintail and Glenmuick, Monday, 1 fish, 7 lb.; Wednesday, 1 fish, 9½ lb.; Thursday, 1 fish, 6 lb.; Friday, 1 fish, 15 lb. Monaltre.—James Harper and Robert Clark (for F. Pickop, Esq.) landed, on Tuesday, 2 salmon, 7 and 8 lb.; Friday, 1 salmon, 10 lb. The "grey heron" and "white-winged tricolour" are proving good killers in this district. Upper Blackhall.—Mr. Frank Farquharson landed 19 spendid salmon ("white-winged tricolour" and "silver grey"); Monday, 6-14, 9, 9, 8, and 7 lb.; Tuesday, 4-8, 11, 14, and 14 lb.; Wednesday, 8 lb.; Friday, 5-salmon, 8, 8, 10, 10, and 11 lb.; Saturday, 3-8, 10, and 15 lb. Braemar.—J. C. Wordie, Esq., on Invercauld Private Water, Monday, 1 salmon, 10 lb.; Tuesday, 1 salmon, 8 lb.; Saturday, 1 salmon, 11 lb. Invercauld Arms Water.—A. Macgregor, jun., Esq., 1 salmon on Monday, 8½ lb. Fife Arms Fishing.—Good sport. It will afford us pleasure to receive from the Fife and Invercauld Arms proprietors a weekly record of sport obtained on the sections attached to their hotels. Report for the present week: Invercauld Arms Water.—Ballater.—Monday, J. Muller, Esq., 7 fish, 7, 7½, 8, 9, 9, 14, and 18 lb. Monaltre.—Robert Clark (for F. Pickop, Esq.), 1 fish, 11 lb. Huntly Arms Water, Aboyne.—John Ferguson, Esq., 1 fish 13½ lb.; John Ross, Esq., 2 fish, 12 and 13½ lb. Crathes, Banchory.—A. Grimbly, Esq., 1 fish, 9 lb. Wester Durriss.—Colonel Bills, 1 fish, 10 lb.; Major Gordon, Deeside Highlanders, 2 fish, 10 and 14 lb.

N.B.—We note a mistake in regard to our reference to Dee flies last week, which we now beg to correct. In the season when the "Gordon" and "Childer" (as noted) are pretty general favourites, it should have read, "the latter ought to be used when the light is strong; the former when it is duller and toward evening."—W. M.

Dove.

The past week has been upon the whole favourable for trout and grayling fishing. The dishes have averaged about four and a half brace per rod, and the most destructive flies have been the blue bumble and the blue and cock-winged duns. I regret to announce that Mr. Thomas Worthington, late secretary to the Trent Fishery Board, has just expired at Derby. Though trout are pretty forward this season, yet the idea seems to be gaining ground in the Midlands, that it would be well to begin a fortnight later, and end a fortnight later. This important matter is advocated by some of the district conservators, and in the near future I should not be surprised to see it carried out.—THE SPLODGER.

Eden (Carlisle.)

Wednesday was the first day since the last flood, that the river has been in order, and several rods were out. The only lucky man I have heard of was Colonel Blackett, who landed a spring fish of 22 lb. in the Crosby water. Probably others were killed higher up the river. On Thursday, it was a grand water, and a capital salmon day; but I must leave my record of the sport till next week.—SILVER GREY.

Exe (Exeter).

River very high, and no fishing doing now. I hear that Messrs. Moles and Hock, of Exeter, had a fine take of pike and perch in the Tiverton and Burlescombe Canal; fuller particulars next week. Mr. Prickman has taken some nice trout in his water, that he has rented for the year near Cowley Bridge.—J. A. KELLEY.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

The take of pike casually mentioned in my report last week appears to have been an exceptionally good one. Messrs. Vicary, Mole, and Stevens tried the canal waters and had two pike each; first honours falling to Mr. Vicary, who captured a fine pike weighing 25½ lb., in fair but not prime condition. The successful angler used a live dace on gimp saddle-hook, and the fish gave good sport, Mr. Mole assisting his fellow angler in landing his coveted prize. Length end to end 3 ft. 7 in. Weather now very wet, and river very full until it fines down: the fishing for bottom and fly anglers is merely "nil." Salmon rods will be used on Saturday, and very good results are anticipated.—J. A. KELLEY.

Exe (Tiverton.)

During the past week the weather has been very unsettled, and the river has scarcely been fishable, except in the shallows, where a few fish have been taken principally with the blue upright. The March browns have made their appearance very early this year. They usually come on about the middle of March. To-day (Thursday) the river is again in flood, and with a falling barometer, there appears little chance of fishing for a day or two.—WM. MUDFORD.

Ilfracombe.

SEA-FISHING.—This past week the weather has been rough and stormy; but on Monday and Tuesday it moderated sufficiently to allow of a trial. A small tamlin cod, about 5½ lb., was caught from the pier, with hand-line. On Tuesday one boat put out, and a fine string of whiting pout were taken with ground lines. Weather at present very unsettled, blowing strong from S. E.—E. COMER.

Lea (Tottenham.)

The water is fining down nicely, and the mild weather is causing the fish to rise as if it were summer instead of spring. There have been some good takes here lately: I saw a chub of 4 lb. 2 oz. taken by Mr. Clark; a brace of jack, about 5 lb., Mr. Dodd; Mr. Hazelwood, a nice jack. Mr. Townsend, to-day has taken a nice trout of 4 lb., which he returned to the water. This is the second large trout that has been taken this season, and it speaks highly of this water as a trout stream. If the proprietors stick to their task of rearing a few, which I hear they are endeavouring to do, I would impress on the anglers the fact that the close season is near at hand, and that some good roach may be had here.

Lea (Waltham Abbey).

There has been very little news to report this last two or three weeks. The water has been in first-class order for all round fishing, and there have been a few jack taken, but they have run very small as a rule. A gentleman, while fishing with a roach about 2½ oz., took a chub of 4 lb., a very fine specimen, which has gone to be preserved. I had, myself, some very good roach a week ago, but since then they have not been feeding. Alfred Wheeler took one jack on Wednesday, and I heard of five jack being taken on the 24th ult., on the town mead, but did not see them. Now we are come to the close season, I do not think the fishermen have any fault to find with the sport, or the size of the fish taken at Waltham Abbey during this season. To-day (Thursday), four very nice jack, from Enfield Lock, were taken by two gentlemen. I hope to be among the roach during the next fortnight.—PENCIL.

Leicester.

There is every appearance of the near approach of the close season. It is only occasionally that the fish are at all on the feed. The pike are now very full of spawn, and should be very early this season. On Monday some good takes of roach and perch were had from the canal at Aylestone, and Wednesday seemed more favourable, as the roach came fairly on the feed. With these exceptions but little has been done. Several Leicester anglers have been visiting the out-of-town waters for pike, but with no great amount of success. The best takes that I could hear of were had by Messrs. L. Smith and Winter-ton, who brought a nice lot, the largest weighing 9 lb. 7 oz., and another 6½ lb., together with several smaller fish. The weather of Thursday was bright and clear, with a slight fall of snow during the afternoon. Waters very fine.—ALERT.

Loch Tay and River (Scotland).

Since last report the water of the Loch has been steadily settling, and the sport has improved in a corresponding degree. On Friday the Killin Hotel water yielded to Col. Cameron, Inverailort, one salmon, 25 lb.; Mr. Wheen, London, 1, 19 lb.; Captain Whitmore, one weight unascertained. On the Lochay Hotel water, Mr. J. B. Gourley, Glasgow, had three, 19 lb., 19 lb., and 20 lb. On Kenmore Hotel water, Mr. Winbush, London, had one 21 lb.; Mr. Payne, Liverpool, one, 15 lb.; Col. Cardew, Letterallen, one, 16 lb. On Saturday on the Killin Hotel water, Mr. Crabbie, Edinburgh, caught a beautiful salmon of 37 lb.; Col. Cameron, one of 21 lb.; Mr. Broad, London, one, 22 lb. On the Lochay Hotel water, Mr. Richmond, Glasgow, had two, 24 lb. and 28 lb., and Mr. Gourley, one 20 lb. On the Kenmore Hotel water, Mr. Winbush had one, 19 lb.; Mr. Lloyd, Liverpool, one, 22 lb.; Major Fagon, Walmer, Kent, one, 19 lb. On Monday, the Killin Hotel water furnished to Mr. Rose, London, one, 25 lb.; Mr. Wheen, London, one, 22 lb. Mr. Crabbie, one, 19 lb. On the Lochay Hotel water, Mr. J. B. Gourley had

one, 22 lb., and Mr. T. Gourley, one, 23 lb. On Kenmore Hotel water, Capt. Low had one, 29 lb.; and Mr. F. Ramford, one, 14 lb. On Tuesday, on the Ardeonaig Hotel water, Mr. Wardle, Leeds, had a salmon of 16 lb.; and on the Killin Hotel water, Col. Cameron had two, 16 lb. and 19 lb. On Thursday on the Killin Hotel water, Col. Cameron, Inverailort, had three salmon weighing 17 lb., 20 lb., and 24 lb. The river has now reached a comparatively low level, and sport is improving. The fish are abundant, of good weight, and in capital condition.—J. MC G.

Lodden.

The river is now in splendid condition for all-round fishing; of course, I am including trout, although we do not commence for the same until May. All kinds of fish are well on the feed, and I only wish I could send you a good report of fish taken; but being so very busy in the hatching house, I have not been able to wet a line, but expect in my next to inform you of the capture of the large pike I have frequently spoken of. Passing through the meadow this morning, I caught sight of him, or her, moving slowly from the night's resting-place, leaving such tokens behind that denoted that he or she must be—as the rev. gentleman who has lost three times in succession the same fish from the same hole says—a monster.—FRANK GOSDEN.

Lugg and Arrow.

Both these streams have gone down and cleared considerably; they are now in good order for either top or bottom fishing. The fish are now rising freely at the blue dun and February red flies. On Saturday a noted angler visited the Lugg and landed some very good trout and a nice lot of shot grayling with the worm. A nice dish of trout was taken in the Arrow on Monday with the blue dun. On Tuesday the Lugg was visited with the fly, and some very nice fish were landed; some very good fish were taken in the Arrow with the worm the same day. An old fisherman visited a tributary of the Arrow on Wednesday, and landed a very nice pike about 7 lb. weight, with the trimmer, and some very good trout and grayling were landed with the dead bait. Part of the Arrow from above Monkland to near Earsland is now preserved, the distance being about four miles. The Pinsley is in splendid order for fly fishing, the fish are rising at the February red, and some very good fish have been landed. A nice lot were taken on Monday with the worm. The fishing in the Shobden Waters are still quiet. A few fish have been taken in the Earsland district. But few visitors to the Ivington waters this week. It is hoped the weather will keep fine, when next week fly-fishing will be in full swing.—GWYNNE.

Medway (Tonbridge).

River in excellent condition for all kinds of angling, but I have not heard of any anglers having been out, no doubt owing to the cold winds; but should the wind veer round, jack will be well on the feed.—YE MEDWAY WATER RAT.

Ouse (Huntingdon).

The water has been a little coloured for the last few days; but it is in condition for fishing now. The pike have been very quiet since the 24th ult. On the 23rd and the 24th sixteen pike were taken by two gentlemen, but very small, the largest weighing about 5½ lb. I cannot hear of much being done since the day named; but the weather has been, and is now, very favourable.—H. ROUT.

Ouse (Littleport).

These frosts we are having now do not suit the fishing in these parts, consequently the anglers have not been rushing down. The following is the best I can do:—Feb. 22nd, two Cambridge gentlemen, 28 lb., roach; Mr. A. Lemaire, Newmarket, 5½ lb., roach, and Mr. J. Gallon, Newmarket, 4½ lb., roach, and silver bream, in one hour and a half. Feb. 24th, a London angler, name unknown, 6 lb. roach. Feb. 26th, two Cambridge gentlemen (same two), 14½ lb., roach; Mr. A. Lemaire, Newmarket, 6½ lb., roach, and Mr. J. Gallon, Newmarket, 5½ lb., good roach, in one hour and three quarters. This I consider good for the time, in February. Feb. 27th, Mr. J. A. Fielden, Cambridge, 8½ lb. good roach and two small jack; Mr. A. Lemaire, Newmarket, tried for about half an hour and got a brace of roach, largest, a good specimen, going 1 lb. 6 oz.—CHARLIE SOUTH.

Pickering (North-East Yorkshire).

All the rivers in this district have got down low and clear, and in first rate condition for pike and grayling fishing. On several apparently perfect fishing days little or nothing could be done. On Shrove Tuesday many anglers were out, all with indifferent success. Some who have tried the Dove, report having seen several larger reds made by the spawning salmon. We saw a fine specimen burbot to day, weight, 3 lb. 12 oz.—NORTH EAST.

Severn (Shrewsbury).

The river has during the week been rather too thick for much angling; but I hear of some good trout having been taken with the nets professedly outside the borough. But the nets, no doubt, have been used in the proclaimed district. In fact, two men were seen just in the act of drawing up their nets on Wednesday morning below the railway bridge. One very fine lot of about twenty-five trout were sold during the early part of the week. On Wednesday morning James Evans, that well-known fisherman who lives near Melverley, caught in one draught six fine salmon, five of which were clean run fish in grand condition; the other was returned to the water. I hope to see anglers supporting the Freshwater Fishery Act Amendment Bill, which is about to be brought before Parliament, by approaching the various members, and getting them to vote for it, as "half a loaf is better than no bread." Water fast getting into condition.—SEVERN SALMON.

Suir and its Tributaries.

Since the season opened on the 1st February until Monday last, we had but three days at the beginning anyway fit for angling; storms, snow, rain, and consequent floods rendered the Suir more like a stormy sea than a gentle river. But now all this is changed; the last severe gale (and very severe it was) seems to have settled the weather, and this week opened auspiciously for both rods and nets. The water, though high, cleared to a good colour, and the salmon were seen leaping in all directions. Mr. C. Quinlan was the first to draw blood; he killed two beauties on Monday on his stream at Suirmount, both new fish fresh from the sea, weighing respectively 19½ lbs., and 14½ lbs. On Tuesday he was again successful, getting two more, 13 lb. and 11 lb.; strange he got them all on the fly, "Suir Blue," notwithstanding the very high water. Ned Butler also got one on Monday in the Green, above the town, with the worm. The Cotmen are having their harvest now. On Monday the four "Clears," near Clonmel, got fifteen, and on Wednesday twenty-five, and to-day again they are killing them as I write; but I do not yet know the number. The largest fish taken this week was 36 lb. The price is going up: it was 2s. per lb. on Wednesday, and is likely to be higher. Dr. Donaldson got three salmon on

Tuesday at his fishing at Rochestown; two of them weighed respectively 20 lb. and 19 lb.—DORA BRADFORD.

Taw and Tributaries (North Devon).

A few dishes of trout have been caught at the heads of little streams. Water very high and very cold. One gent got eighteen fish, some $\frac{1}{2}$ -pounders, large for North Devon; caught with Cutcliffe's No. 29.—RUSTY GAME.

Teme (Ludlow).

This river has again got into good order; the tributaries have gone down to almost their usual level. A gent visited the Corve last Saturday with the red worm and hooked three brace of trout weighing about 1½ lb. per brace. This gentleman reading the report, in Saturday's FISHING GAZETTE, of his two days up the Ony, again visited that stream on Monday determined to try his luck once more. He fished all up the stream to Onibury and back again, but only caught a small trout and one solitary chubb about 2 lbs. weight. Tuesday brought a bright summer's day, tempting numerous anglers to the water's side. About midday the "March Brown" was seen for the first time this season on the Teme; the fly was quite strong, and my friend Mr. S. Hodges, the fly-maker, secured a number of them and forwarded them to the office of the GAZETTE for editorial inspection. The same day, R. Smith, a well-known local angler, was fishing in the Teme with the claret body, when he speedily hooked three nice trout about three quarters of a pound each. On Tuesday night a change in weather took place, the thermometer going down to 36 deg., or 4 deg. above freezing point. The wind is veering south-east and a nasty drizzling rain falls. Fishermen visiting the waters of the Clun can now calculate on plenty of good fishing in that favourite stream by only applying to Mr. Penny, the landlord of the Kangaroo Hotel, who has now some miles of water available for anglers. Mr. Penny is also one of the best fishermen in the district, and is always provided with baits and tackle. Nothing yet doing in the Letwyche. Fly fishing will be in force next week should the weather take up and be fine.—S. LUDLOW.

Teme (Tenbury).

The water in this part is now going gradually down to its proper level. It is clearing very nicely, and in a few days will be in splendid order for either fly or bottom-fishing. A few fish were landed at the end of last week near the town with the worm. On Saturday some nice trout were taken by a gent fishing above the town with the worm. In the water below Little Hereford Bridge a good basket of trout was landed with the February red on Monday. A nice dish of trout was landed the same day below the town with the worm. On Tuesday a gent visited the water with the blue dun, and landed a very nice lot of fish, and a very nice lot of fish were taken above Little Hereford with the same fly. On Wednesday the water was visited, but very poor sport was had, there being a change in the weather, and the fish would not bite. The anglers of this part are now preparing for fly-fishing, the fish being rather shy now at taking the worm as the water is getting fine. The Kyre and Rea are in good fishing order, but fishing quiet in them this week. Little doing in the Ledwyche this week.—WORCESTER.

Trent (Newark).

The water has been in capital winter trim this week, but no kinds of fish have been on the bite at all freely. The weather has been very changeable, one day beautiful, spring like, the next cold and raw; one day the wind has been in the west, the next plump north; so I reckon this curious combination of circumstances has had something to do with the fish feeding so indifferently. (Thursday). The water is in good form, but the weather has been very cold, wind east, and slight snow showers have been flying about; but "faint heart never won fair lady," so perhaps a good bag of chub or roach may reward the "patient angler" if he keeps on trying the likely spots.—THE TRENT ORTHER.

Trent (Nottingham).

The river, as anticipated in my last, ran down somewhat rapidly for the time of the year, and on Monday the colour was right for the followers of both chub and pike. The weather, however, was very severe, and what few anglers went out must have heartily wished themselves at home again. In one secluded spot greaves enticed four very nice chub, and but for wind springing up, the rodster was sanguine that he should have fared better. Most of the recognised pike haunts were drawn blank. Early on Tuesday morning a drizzling rain set in; but after dinner there was a clearance and some chub were killed with pith and brains at Wilford, largest fish 2½ lb. Wednesday opened mildly, and a greater number of rodsters were out; notably in the upper reaches. The river rose a few inches, and besides chub, roach and dace were persuaded to feed. Unfortunately, the Burton breweries' refuse proved troublesome, and we shall be truly glad when the nuisance is abated. On Thursday a splendid lot of roach and dace were got near Swarkestone, the largest roach 1 lb. 12 oz. A grayling was also caught.—THE MAN AT THE CLUBS.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

The river in this district is running at about the nominal winter height, and is in first-class condition for all descriptions of angling. On Monday the water, through rain on the Derbyshire hills, rose a few inches, but the influx quickly disappeared, and Shrove-Tuesday brought out a whole legion of rodsters. A large proportion of the number patronised the upper reaches, and at Willington some remarkably fine roach and dace were caught with the little red worm. Several of the dace weighed above 10 oz. each, and there was one of 11½ oz., the successful taker in this instance being Mr. B. Thompson, of Nottingham. Some chub were bagged in the Shardlow length, and a nice lot of roach came to hand from Weston. Pike "adepts" were busy below Nottingham; and out of a noted back water, near Radcliffe, five very good fish fell a prey to the live-bait, Mr. J. Theaker and friends having been doing wonders amongst the dace, which, just now, are in superb condition. Mr. J. Cuckson, of the Temple Bar Inn, Pepper Street, Nottingham, intends shortly to offer £5 to be competed for in the fish tank on the premises of his hostelry.—THE MAN AT THE CLUBS.

Wye and Derwent.

A great quantity of rain fell the latter end of last week, which caused both rivers to be slightly flushed. Both on Monday and Tuesday good water was on the Derwent for bottom-fishing, and I am pleased to say that some really good baskets of both trout and grayling were killed, chiefly with worms, and baskets from five to eight and a half brace per angler was made. There has been very little fly-fishing done during the week, owing to the rivers being too full at the present time. By Monday next both the Wye and the higher lengths of the Derwent ought to yield some good baskets of grayling with the artificial flies. Natural flies have been out in great quantities during the week—viz., the long flat-winged browns, and spider and old cock winged duns.

The flies I recommend are bumble, claret body, point; furnace, first drop, spider fly, second drop.—GEO. JAS. EATON.

Yare (Norwich).

On this stream during the last fortnight nothing of interest with regard to jack fishing has reached me: some little fish have been taken here and there, but nothing worth recording. One prize was had the other day by Tungate, of Bracondale, Norwich, whilst live-baiting for jack, viz., a nice salmon trout (*Salmo fario*) of 2 lb. 3 oz. I saw the fish, and not being used to such, considered it remarkably beautiful. It is not such a fine specimen as was caught by Mr. C. J. Greene, spinning, and which we have stuffed in the club room of the Norwich Angling Club, but still it was a rare and welcome prize to the old gent; he hooked it near Whitlingham, about 1 mile below Norwich. In private waters, during the last two weeks, some remarkably good sport has been had. I have heard of catches varying from 31 pike (qy. how caught) down to 3, and I believe in one case a blank day. Anyhow, there is no doubt that for some days past, the pike have been well on the feed, catches of 6, 8, 11, and 18, all testify to the supply of the sport-giving fish. I have been to-day and looked at two caught yesterday (Wednesday) and they weigh together 42 lb., and as far as I am a judge, there is hardly 1 lb. difference between them. I understand they are going up to the metropolis as specimens of our Norfolk fish. Between this and the 15th, I hope and expect to be able to report some excellent sport, if the fish do not prove too forward. The warm weather has rendered this likely, and I should advise all my friends who have days to make up, to do so as speedily as possible, as the later they make it, the worst chance they will have. Prospects good, but rain would make an improvement.—R. MOLL.

Yore (Hawes).

Since the opening day I have heard of two or three baskets being made, but the size was as usual (not several ½ lb. fish or any up to 2 or 3 lb.), about 5 or 6 to the pound. One basket, weighing 3½ lb., contained 15 fish. I have myself taken 7 brace, weighing about 3 lb., certainly not more. Running the worm, as advised by me for grayling, has been the most killing bait. The weather has lately been very cold, too cold for fly fishing. The first flies I should advise would be moor game brown (orange body), under side of water-hen (purple body), under side of snipe (yellow body), dressed sparingly. These three flies, with the addition of wood cock brown, will kill almost all the year round up here. In fact, I never think of fishing without one of the two light bloas mentioned above, and as the season advances, I add another bloa to my list—the moor poult. I have killed more fish with these three bloas than any other fly I have ever fished.—JOSEPH CORRY.

SCOTCH FISHING NOTES.

LOCH TAY.—The loch continues in good ply, and anglers are meeting with fair sport, as will be seen from the following notes:—

KILLIN HOTEL WATER.—On Saturday, Mr. Broad, London, killed one salmon of 22 lb. On Monday, Mr. Rose, London, had one of 25 lb.; Mr. Wheen, London, one, 22 lb.; and Mr. Crabbie, one, 19 lb. On Tuesday, Col. Cameron, Invercauld, had two salmon of 19 lb. and 16 lb.

LOCHAY HOTEL WATER.—On Monday, Mr. J. B. Gourlay killed a salmon of 22 lb., and Mr. T. Gourlay one of 23 lb.

ARDEONAIG HOTEL WATER.—On Tuesday, Mr. Wardle, Leeds, was out, and killed a salmon of 16 lb.

KENMORE HOTEL WATER.—On Monday, Captain Low killed a fish of 29 lb., and Mr. Bamford one of 14 lb.

THE TAY.—The favourable anticipations as to the conditions of the river have been fully realised. The river is now in first-rate ply, and excellent sport has been got since last report:—

ABERFELDY.—Mr. Alex. Robertson, merchant, Aberfeldy, caught a fish of 18 lb. on the Strathay streams on Monday.

EDRADYNATE.—On Saturday, Mr. James Stewart Robertson's keeper killed a fine fish of 19 lb.; and on Monday another splendid fish of 22 lb. was killed. On Tuesday, Mr. Stewart Robertson's keeper had two fish of 18 lb. and 12 lb.

GRANFULTY.—On Monday, Mr. Graham's keeper killed a fish of 10 lb.

DALGUISSE.—On Saturday, Mr. Robert McIntosh had three fish.

MURTHLY.—On Monday, Sir William Elliott killed a fish of 18 lb.

ISLA MOUTH.—On Tuesday, Mr. Henry Kelsall killed a fish of 14 lb., and landed eleven kelts.

STOBHALL.—Three fish were killed on this water on Monday.

THISTLE BRIDGE.—On Tuesday, Sir William Elliott killed two fish of 24 lb. and 20 lb., besides losing other two fish. One of the fish which was lost was a very large one. After running for ten minutes, it made a tremendous rush down and across the river, taking all the line out, and then breaking the tackle.

LOCH LUBNAIG.—On Monday, Mr. Buchanan, Ruinacraig, killed two salmon, weighing 20 and 15 lb. On Tuesday, Mr. Buchanan, Ruinacraig killed a salmon 18 lb. The loch is now in excellent ply for fishing, but few fishers have been out as yet.

CALLANDER.—Weather very much improved, and the river in much better order for successful fishing. On Monday, Mr. Anderson, sen., landed a fine salmon, 14 lb., and Mr. Anderson, jun., one, also 14 lb.; Mr. Buchanan, Ruinacraig, one, 20 lb.; Norman McFarlane, one 8½ lb.; Mr. Wilkie, one 18 lb.

THE DOCHART.—An attempt is to be made to increase the stock of fish in the Dochart—which is a deep sluggish river, flowing out of Loch Dochart to Loch Tay—by placing in it one thousand yearling Lochleven trout.

LOCHARD.—Mr. Kerr was out on Friday, and landed fourteen good trout. On Saturday, Mr. Stevenson and friend had seven trout. Other two gentlemen secured two trout; and Mr. Kerr and friend, in two hours' fishing in the afternoon, secured seven splendid trout, one weighing 1 lb. 14 oz. On Monday, Mr. Doughty killed ten trout. Mr. Kerr was out for a short time in the morning, but was unsuccessful, the loch being too calm.

GEORGE JAMES EATON, of Starkholmes, Matlock-Bath, Derbyshire, respectfully invited Noblemen and Gentlemen to try his standard FLIES for the present season. No flies sent or made up but what he himself has proved sure killers. A trial is all that is required from gentlemen who can fish, to prove whether they may be genuine or not. Patronised by some of the best fishermen of the day. All flies dressed on the best Kendal hooks. Prices: Point Flies, 2s. 6d. per Dozen; Dropper Flies, 2s. per Dozen. Orders punctually attended to.—(ADVT.)

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

R. K. G.—We think you cannot do better than write to W. H. Brougham, Esq., Swayfield Villa, Hounslow, and send 6½d. in stamps for the Thames Angling Preservation Society Blue Book. It will give you the list you want. The "privileges" consist in being able as a member to travel (for fishing trips only) at greatly reduced railway fare between certain stations on certain lines, and to look in at your club and enjoy the proverbial "good fellowship" of anglers. Again, some of the clubs rent waters for the use of their members, but as a rule, these are very exclusive and limited. Do we advise you to join a club? Well, that depends on the club. In some the members, or rather the officers, are so full of "business" that a stranger might fancy he had tumbled into a prayer-meeting, so formal and solemn are the proceedings.

EAST ANGLIAN.—Mr. Jardine *does* kill very many, if not most, of his pike on the single hook, but his "paternoster snap" is safer. See our Christmas Number, December, 1882, with illustrations of his tackle in position on baits.

X.—There is no trout fishing near Pembroke; or of the kind you want at Reading.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

SALMON IN TROUT STREAMS, &c.

SIR,—I must say to Mr. Ford that suppositions are very deceitful in many cases. I certainly do most heartily wish to catch my first salmon in the Yore in this locality. I once had some very pleasant experience with these "lordly fishes." I cannot say I have killed a "goodly number," but I was once successful in grassing four weighing in the aggregate 64½ lb. in one and a half hours. I have not considered that if the obstacles were removed a teacher would be necessary to instruct the salmon to "go up higher," because I *know* that they would not require to be shown the way. Instinct would lead them to find out the way if there was one. I think our friend would be out of his element teaching salmon to surmount the "First Standard." I rather fancy they would be out of the fourth (full) before he could touch a fin preparatory to commencing the education he seems to think so necessary. Nay, nay, friend Ford, Nature would be the pedagogue.

What! are we (men) to leave all alone as we found it? If so, farewell to all development of our resources. It is only by removing seeming "impassable obstacles" placed before us (by earning our bread by the sweat of our brow, if you like it better) that we fulfil the end for which we are placed upon this terrestrial sphere. When Mr. Ford speaks of involving the expense of a hatchery, he tickles me under the fifth rib. Have all salmon rivers "a hatchery," Mr. Ford? My idiosyncrasy may be somewhat warped, but I am not so far gone as to swallow such a dose of quackery. I should not mind my head aching a bit (if not too-too) after a tussle with a "lordly fish," in the waters of this locality, I can tell you. It has ached many a time, when I have whipped the water the day through for nothing.

Now for my friend from Askrigg. It is all bosh, my friend, about an average angler on an average day getting several trout over ½ lb. and up to 2 and even 3 lb. weight in these times. It might have done thirty or forty years ago, but not now, my friend.

I have now angled these waters, I believe, four seasons, and only in one instance have I caught a fish over 1½ lb. In only two instances have I heard of or seen a 2 lb. fish. A pound and a half fish is like the fabled angel visits—few and far between. The majority of the anglers—yea, ninety-nine out of a hundred—if they kill a three pound basket, will find the fish to average a good bit under a quarter pound each. I wonder if Mr. Skidmore means to assert that *all* the trout go up the small beck to spawn. If so, I must correct his error. He has evidently never fished grayling in the season, or he would have been surprised at the numbers of spawning trout he would occasionally catch. One day last season I returned at least 4 lb. of trout. Hundreds of trout spawn in the main stream. I have seen them. I have never seen grayling ascend the small beck after the spawning trout, but I have caught them at the foot of the small beck gorged with trout spawn. They would not naturally ascend the small beck because (the best of all reasons) it is not "their nature so to do." Study the habits of "Salmo Thymallus," and you will find what I say is correct. I can find several cases of grayling having been taken with salmon roe. I am much obliged, my friend, for your so kindly substantiating what I said was the cause of the opposition to the letting salmon above Aysgarth Force. If such remarks as "A good many would go up but very few come back" does not betray the real cause of the opposition, what does? I cannot understand how it happened that the myriads of grayling you speak about were infected with the disease and the trout escaped. The best authorities on the salmon disease say that the disease will exist in the water. It is not brought from the sea by the salmon, but contracted in the water. Overcrowding is said to be the great source of infection. But I am digressing into a notice of salmon disease. I have angled in the Eden, Lune, Petherel, and Caldew, and could always kill heavier fish (on the average) than in the Yore. I have sometimes filled a basket in the Lune, and never had a fish under a quarter; and have killed hundreds in the Yore, and I dare swear that seven out of every dozen were under a quarter. I think I killed somewhere about four stone last year, and only on one occasion had I a pound and a half fish. I consider myself an average hand, yet your assertion did not hold good in my case. I venture to make this assertion—that the greatest part of the fish in the Yore in this locality average considerably less than a quarter of a pound. I often dissect fish when angling, and I came across the following strange conglomeration of food in one fish last year, viz., snails, dock grubs, daddy-longleg grubs, ant eggs, creepers and pellets of spawn. Grayling spawn, my dear sir, by its colour, for the grayling were just on the scours. I know nothing about the Innay and the Camel, but I know I can go into one stream in this locality and get small-sized fish (eight to twelve to the pound), and I can go in to another and get decent fish. Solve the riddle, Mr. Ford—no salmon in either stream, and each apparently the same breed of fish. I am not above conviction, and if either Mr. Ford or Mr. Skidmore can convince me by arguments that salmon cause trout streams to deteriorate both in point of numbers and size of fish, I will acknowledge my error, but I must have conclusive evidence. Without a subject is ventilated, no good can accrue, and I trust some good will be done from the ventilation of this subject. I know there

is sometimes a difficulty in strangers obtaining leave to angle in salmon trout streams, but I never anticipate any difficulty of that kind in this locality, as far as natives are concerned—i.e., respectable working men—I am, &c.,

JAMES COBBY.

LONDON ANGLERS AND THE MEDWAY.

SIR,—In the last number of the FISHING GAZETTE I observed a letter under the above title, signed by Edwin Holloway, hon. sec. Tunbridge Angling Club and Fish Preservation Society, couched in language anything but complimentary to the United Brothers.

"What have the Deptford Brothers to say to this?" We'll, Mr. Editor in the first place, your correspondent makes a most serious charge against a respectable body of anglers, and our friend has received his information from the wrong source.

He states, "Only a few weeks since two of the members of the United Brothers were caught fishing where they had no business." This place is a pond on the side of the public high road, not protected in any way, and the magistrate remarked "that if it was wished to protect it from anglers a notice-board should be erected to that effect."

"Mr. Holloway continues his letter, stating that one of the members was led away by the other. The man who knew better was proceeded against, and fined; but he states that it was no punishment, as the club in question paid both fines and costs."

This statement I must correct, as the man that was fined is not a member of the United Brothers, and has nothing to do with it whatever. I must admit that one of our members was there at the time, and the reason he was not proceeded against simply was, as your correspondent knows, that the lord of the manor gave him permission to fish, and his lordship recognised him again in court. The paying of the fines and costs by the society, to this I give a most positive denial, and have not the slightest hesitation in saying that the funds of this society never have, or are ever likely to be spent in such cases as spoken of by Mr. Holloway. And another thing—members are not allowed to weigh in fish from private waters in this society; should they do so, and it is discovered, they are expelled, and forfeit all prizes and moneys due. I think Mr. Holloway ought to know this is a rule strictly carried out in many London societies. I must say that it is very seldom that the United Brothers fish at Tonbridge, their favourite places being Paddock Wood, Yalding, and Watlington, in the Maidstone Association's water, by whom we get treated with the greatest respect and courtesy, as well as first-class fishing.

Referring to "the old gentleman and his clothes," I could not help speaking about it in my former report; as I thought that a society supported by the nobility could afford to give to a good servant "a new rig-out" more often than once in seven years.—I am, &c.,

W. T.

AN ECCENTRIC JACK.

SIR,—Perhaps the unmentioned facts, which occurred during a day's jack fishing a few days ago, may be interesting to your numerous readers, and worthy of record in your valuable columns. I started about 9.30 a.m. for a celebrated stream accompanied by my old fisherman, Josiah Heath, late of Wraysbury fishery, now in my employ.

We lost no time in getting to work, and I soon had a brace of handsome fish. My next cast was not so fortunate, though it afforded us three-quarters of an hour's amusement. I was live baiting with float and ordinary double grip hooks, when, getting a run directly my bait touched the water, the fish, a jack of about four pounds, ran foul of a pile and completely tied my line around it. It being impossible for me to extricate my line, the jack left my bait half dead, and it came to the surface, so I made up my mind to break my tackle and chance the rest. I did so, and before I could rig out a fresh bait he came again at the first, which was left hanging to the pile, with trace and float attached, and about 6 feet of line. We stood and watched his actions, and disinterestedly saw him take the bait four times in rapid succession, and the last time he held him for at least a quarter of an hour, when, to our surprise, and I may say intense delight and amusement, he left go of the bait and dashed at my float, an ordinary "yellow cork," about 3 inches long (torpedo-shaped), and to which he gave a severe chewing, and at last gave it up as a bad job. We put him in a nice lively dace but he would have no more to do with us, so we left him for another day.—I am, &c.,

Feb. 21st.

J. GRAHAM.

THAMES NOTES.—THE EARLY SEASON.

SIR,—I had a day's pike-fishing in private water on Wednesday, the 17th inst., and took five very nice fish, the total weight being 29½ lb., the largest turning the scale at 9½ lb.

Last Wednesday, Mr. Marjerson, a member of the Richmond Piscatorial Society, while spinning for pike in the Thames, at Datchet, hooked a heavy fish, which when landed proved to be a fine trout of 9 lb. The hooks having been carefully removed from its mouth, it was duly returned to the water, with no further harm than a sore mouth.

Mr. Cain, of the Fairfield, Kingston, also a member of the above society, while perch-fishing in this locality a few days since, took a lamprey with a small live bait; thus showing that lampreys, like eels, are destructive to the small fry.—I am, &c.,

West-by-Thames, Kingston,

H. DICKINSON,

26th Feb.

Vice-Chairman Richmond P. S.

P.S.—Apart from angling matters, but simply to show the forwardness of the season, I beg to state that I caught a young sparrow, half fledged, in my garden last week.—H. D.

[Ludlow correspondent has sent us some natural March browns which he caught on the Teme last Tuesday. This is nearly a month ahead.—Ed.]

SALMON IN THE YORE AND SWALE.

SIR,—In my last letter "Tuny," should have been "Inny" or "Inney." I was delighted with the most practical letter of Mr. Skidmore. I am sure he deserves the thanks of all good fishermen. Every point is, I think, touched upon with truth and emphasis, and withal carries the weight of a long experience. The arguments adduced are simply unanswerable. Mr. Skidmore gave me, if I mistake not, the first collar of flies with which I fished the Yore about twenty-five years ago, and all this time he has been accumulating knowledge which it is impossible to ignore. Whilst I would say with all my heart, *Audi alteram partem*, with such gallant champions our battle is well nigh won.—I am, &c.,

THOMAS FORD.

Manor Fishery, Caistor, Feb. 19th.

FISH IN PARK LAKES.

SIR,—A letter under this heading, signed H. Oliver, Liverpool, appears in last week's edition of the FISHING GAZETTE. I scarcely see the drift or motive of this letter; but if H. Oliver assumes that Mr. Richardson, the curator here, who has the stocking of our park lakes in hand, intends to give *tench* and *perch* for *small roach*, he is grievously mistaken. Sefton Park lake is literally swarming with *small roach*, and if any were wanted for Stanley or Newsham lakes, they could easily be had from the first named lake, without much trouble or expense, and, certainly, without giving *tench* and *perch* for them. The statement to the above effect appeared in the paper, but it was passed in the Proceedings of the Birmingham Parks committee under a wrong impression, at least so Mr. Richardson informs me. On Thursday next (February 28th) there will be placed in Sefton Park lake *one thousand yearling trout*, of the Lough Neagh, Loch Leven, and ordinary, or brook trout breeds. These have been supplied by Colonel Masefield, of Ellerton Hall, Newport, Salop, the gentleman who supplied those we put in our reservoir. It is also in contemplation to place in Sefton Lake a few hundred two-year-old trout, and thus enable anglers to fish for them, as the yearlings would not be ready for catching this year. Permission to fish in, and the stocking of our park lakes, show what perseverance will accomplish. Three years ago, when the members of this association (the Liverpool Angling, then the only one existing) first took the matter in hand, it looked almost hopeless; but, by dint of keeping the matter constantly in motion, the association has obtained a complete success. We have also had for some time before the committee the following recommendations:—1. The reduction of the fee from one guinea per annum to half a guinea (this has been partially conceded). 2. Permission to fish the whole of the day (the regulations prohibit angling between nine a.m. and four p.m.). 3. Permission to fish in the whole of the lower portion of Newsham lake, or at least, a much larger portion than at present set apart. 4. The stocking of the lakes so as to keep up the supply. 5. The providing of punts for the use and convenience of anglers. In Nos. 1 and 3 we have achieved a partial success, but in No. 4 a complete one, the committee having given the curator full power to expend all the money the fishing tickets bring in for procuring, by purchase or otherwise, fish of various kinds to put in the lakes. And the anglers of Liverpool may rest assured that no efforts will be spared to provide such fishing as it is possible to obtain in the neighbourhood.—I am, &c.,

RD. WOOLFALL.

Hon. sec. to the Liverpool Angling Association.

Feb 26. [What is the size of Sefton Park Lake? It is not often wise to put big trout in with little ones, unless with a view to feed the former. We most heartily congratulate the Liverpool anglers on securing such valuable privileges; it seems on'y the other day when Mr. Woolfall wrote asking us how he should set about to form an association.—ED.]

MR. ANDREWS' FISH-BREEDING ESTABLISHMENT.

SIR,—Mr. Marston afforded your readers an excellent description of Mr. Andrews' fish-breeding establishment in his article which appeared in your issue of the 9th inst. Mr. Andrews is an enthusiast, but at the same time he is a practical man of business, and he sends his fry and yearlings with safety to all parts of the kingdom. Some people imagine that it is very difficult, if not a most impossible, to convey yearlings safely to any distance. This, however,

is quite a mistake. Three weeks ago I sent Mr. Andrews an order for 1,000 yearlings (*S. Fario*). They were despatched in lots of 100 and 150 each to my cottage on the Test, in Hampshire (Lord Portsmouth's Fishery), and they all arrived without the loss of a single fish, and I may venture to add that a finer specimen of yearlings was never seen. They averaged 5 inches.

Mr. Andrews has special cans made for the purpose, about the size of an ordinary railway milk can, the lid being perforated, and in this way the fish may be conveyed to great distances. The can should not be more than three-fourths full of water, as by that means the water is more freely aerated by the motion of travelling.—I am, &c.,

PETER WILLIAMS.

5, Bank Buildings, E.C.

THE WHARFE, SEMMERWATER.

SIR,—Permit me to thank Mr. Walbran, "Winder Black," and Mr. Sidmore for the information they have been kind enough to give me respecting the above, and for the trouble they have taken to furnish it. I hope to be able shortly to fish the places they were so good as to describe.—I am, &c.,

FLY FISHER.

RAILWAY FACILITIES.

SIR,—I think that the attention of anglers should be at once directed to the proposal, that I am given to understand on good authority, the railway companies have under consideration, namely—the withdrawal of the privilege enjoyed by anglers' clubs of obtaining return tickets on reduced terms.

Such an action could not fail to seriously affect the popularity and well-being of the clubs, besides in a great measure preventing many anglers from participating in their favourite sport altogether.

I shall be glad to hear what steps will be taken to obtain a continuance of the present arrangement.—I am, &c.,

PISCATOR.

Feb. 27th.

[We have not heard of any proposal to do away with the privileges granted to anglers.—ED.]

THE LATEST BACKWOODS STORY.—An old hunter on a cold day was returning to his cabin when he was discovered and chased by Indians. He took refuge by climbing up into an old chimney. When the Indians saw him disappear in the chimney, after their first yell of disappointment, they gathered heaps of bark and brush and made a roaring fire to roast the imprisoned foe; but he frustrated their amiable design by taking off all his clothes, and placed them with the blanket, which he had strangely held on to all during the race, in the chimney below him, and this prevented the flames from reaching him. "But," said a gentleman to whom he related the adventure, "I should have thought the clothing would have taken fire and burnt up." "So 'twould' stranger," said he, "but ye see it war powerful warm whar I war, an' I sweated so smart like that it kept 'em ar fixins soakin' wet, an' the fire couldn't kee ch on. After they thought I war all burnt up, they left an' I clim' down and went home. That chunk of rock in thar kem outer that self-same chimbley."—*American Tourist*.

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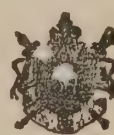
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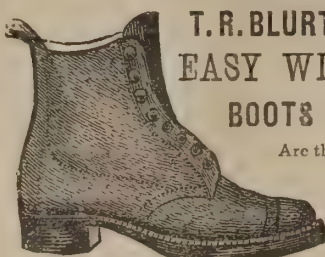
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Contributions are solicited, but the Editor will not undertake to return rejected MSS. unless accompanied with a stamped addressed envelope.

Correspondents are requested to write on one side of the paper only, and give their real names and addresses, not necessarily as signatures to their letters, but as a guarantee of good faith. Unless this rule be adhered to, no notice will be taken of such communications.

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The Fishing Gazette.

SATURDAY, MARCH 8, 1884.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. W. F., LEEDS.—Many thanks for the extracts.

FERN WEB.—You will find the casts you want advertised in our columns. Yes, we do recommend "Trout Fishing in Rapid Streams," as a capital book.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

MR. KELSON'S ARTICLES.

SIR,—In the GAZETTE of the 16th ult. the "governor's cast" is referred to and explained by Mr. Kelson; but I fail to understand the action after the hooking on of the fly to the elastic band. Does the propelling movement cause the hook to tear itself away, or does it simply pull it off without damaging the elastic band? If the former, a very extensive supply of bands will be necessary. Apologising for troubling both Mr. Kelson and yourself,—I am, &c.,

G. J. SNAITH.

[The action, after hooking the fly through the elastic band, is as I described. The angler is to pose as illustrated, then the rod is dropped behind, so that the line nearly touches the ground in the act of propelling the fly. I thought it was not necessary to state that this stretched and broke the band.—GEO. M. K.]

RE ANGLING SLANG.

SIR,—I am very glad to see in "I. C. U.'s" scraps that your note on the above subject has commended itself to anglers in America, as well as to those of our own country, for the slang terms, so frequently seen in fishing reports, are, as "I. C. U." says, nauseating. Why on earth, in sending a report, cannot a man call a spade a spade, and an angler by his proper name, without insulting those gentlemen who find recreation in this kind of sport by terming them "rodsters"? The practice is, however, I hope, on the wane, for I notice in this issue of the FISHING GAZETTE (March 1st) that it is only the Trent anglers of the Nottingham district who are alluded to in this objectionable way, and I trust that they and all anglers may soon be permitted to appear in print under more legitimate titles. However, now that you and "I. C. U." have expressed such decided views on this matter, let us hope that reporters will not court further "touching up" on the subject, but will in future allow anglers to appear in print as such, and rid the pages of your journal of angling slang.—I am, &c.,

A. C. V.

Coggshall.

[We always, when we notice them, alter "rodster" into angler, "speckled-beauty" into trout, "finny tribe" into fish, "shop" into fishing place, &c., and when they appear it is because we have overlooked them.—ED.]

ST. NEOT'S FISHERY.

To Mr. JAMES WAINWRIGHT, Chairman of the Committee of the Ouse Defence Fund.

SIR,—Reflecting upon some pleasant days you and I have fished together on the Ouse below St. Neots, I am sorry to see there is a disposition on the part of riparian owners to prevent angling. As there is a towing path, no harm is done to meadows or banks, and unless some anglers have misbehaved themselves, it savours somewhat of tyranny for gentlemen (even if they have the right) to destroy the healthful, yet harmless, recreation of London anglers. Many of these honest fellows are shut up the whole week until midday on Saturday in close and crowded workshops. The gentlemen who, by silent consent or otherwise, allow such men to angle in a large river such as the Ouse, do their own interests very little injury, and, on the other hand, may be considered as public benefactors.

From this point of view, could not these owners be approached, and an arrangement made by which their private rights (if valid) are recognised, viz., by the issuing of daily tickets at a sum within the means of all—6d. per day?

I shall be happy to contribute towards a fund established for such a purpose.—I am, &c.,

THOMAS HUGGETT.

[This is a most timely and wise proposal.—ED.]

"FISH FOR PARKS AND LAKES."—THE LIVERPOOL ANGLING ASSOCIATION.

SIR,—In my letter published last week, the compositor has put "Birmingham" instead of "Birkenhead." The young trout arrived safely, and were duly placed in the park lakes. Sefton Park Lake covers, I should think, quite 20 acres, and as there is a great abundance of fish food in it, I do not think there is much danger of the two-year-old trout, when put in, molesting the yearlings. The Liverpool Angling Association is nearing its sixth birthday, but I do not remember having applied to you, sir, for instructions as to forming it—though, of course, I do not mean there would have been anything derogatory in asking so true and able a friend of angling as yourself for such instruction.—I am, &c.,

R. WOOLFALL, hon. sec.

[In the F. G. for Aug. 29, 1879, will be found the first letter in a correspondence entitled, "A Fishing Club for Liverpool." In the number for Oct. 4, 1879, is an account of the inaugural meeting of the Liverpool Central Angling Association, in which the secretary thanks us for "the able assistance you have rendered us by the publication of the previous correspondence." We knew we had aided in getting up the first angling club started in Liverpool, and the fact that Mr. Woolfall's club was started afterwards had escaped our memory.—ED.]

SALMON IN TROUT STREAMS.

SIR,—I must confess I have no wish to enter into a controversy with respect to salmon in trout streams. What I intended to do in my former letter was simply to state my experience of them, and of trout and grayling eating each other's spawn.

Mr. Corry seems to think it "all bosh" getting a good dish of good fish at this time, and if you will give me the space I will just give a few baskets caught by myself or when attending gentlemen.

In the season, 1880, Professor Ransom, Leeds, staying at Askrigg, engaged me to give him a lesson in minnow fishing. We fished about $\frac{1}{4}$ miles. My basket was over 11 lb.; heaviest trout, 3 lb. 1 oz., three others over 1 lb. each. In the same summer, fishing with W. E. M. Winn, Esq., in the Hawes Association Water, I had between 7 and 8 lb.; heaviest trout, 2 lb., two others 1 lb. each. Coming to last season, which was a very bad one, I fished very little on my own account, not having the time to spare. I attended Hugh Chaytor, Esq., Redcar, two days. On the first day my basket was eight trout, weighing 7 lb.; one 2 lb. and one 1 lb. The second day five trout, 4 lb. in weight; heaviest fish, $1\frac{1}{2}$ lb. One day with Mr. Moscrop, Manchester, a basket of about 7 lb.; heaviest trout, $1\frac{1}{2}$ lb., and three $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. each. Theo. Honung, Esq., Middlesboro', engaged me for one day to give him a lesson in fly-fishing, he never having tried it before. His basket was one fish of 14 oz., mine 6 lb.; one fish, 1 lb., and three of $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. each. Another day, F. C. Cobb, Esq., Margate, wished me to take my rod to help him to make up a dish for friends, my own basket, nine trout, weighing 7 lb., included three of 1 lb. each.

Now, Sir, I dare affirm that if all the baskets of trout caught between Aysgarth Low Force and Redmire Force during the whole of last season had been examined, they could not have produced such a show of fish as these few instances which I have just mentioned.

It may be "bosh" if he likes to think so; but these are hard facts which can be substantiated by applying to the gentlemen whose names I have mentioned. Of course, I do not mean to say that all trout go up the small brooks to spawn, as that, in some places, is impossible, owing to the formation of the river. There are places which, if the trout were to leave their haunts, it would be impossible for them to return.

As for fishing grayling in the autumn, I may safely say that I imagine I had my first lesson before Mr. Corry was born, and have kept at it ever since.

I believe it was the autumn of 1859 that November set in with a very keen frost, which froze up the pools and streams of the river and brooks, and so prevented the trout from getting on the spawning beds at the proper season. Several old fishers thought when getting on to the end of December that the trout would be obliged to spawn in the main river. The day before Christmas Day it thawed, and as was my usual habit, I went to the brooks to observe them, and I saw such a sight as I never have done before or since—the bed of the streams was paved with spawning trout.

I do not pretend to know how it was that the trout escaped the salmon disease. All I do know is, that the grayling did contract it, and died.

I do not doubt but that a grayling or trout will take a stray pellet of each other's spawn coming past them, but I do not believe their eating it in quantities as their proper food. It is well known by all practical anglers that grayling and trout are very curious in their feeding habits. The only wonder to me is, what they will not take. What food does a wobbling spoon bait, Devon minnow, or big, gaudy salmon fly represent, that they so greedily dash at them? My opinion is, that when they do take a pellet of spawn it is only done from curiosity.

Last year a friend of mine, Mr. Cherry, of Gunnerside Lodge, Swaledale, caught a dish of trout in the Swale below Muker. Mrs. Cherry, when gutting them, found a long, hard substance in one of them, which turned out to be a girl's crochet needle.

About twenty years ago, when fishing on Semmerwater, I met an old fisher, a friend of mine, who told me he had got the most curious fish he ever saw in his life. He proceeded to show me it, and it looked as if it had a child's fist in its belly with the knuckles sticking through the skin in various places. On reaching his house in the evening the trout was opened, and a quarter-grown rat was discovered, and that partly digested; but, my dear sir, I do not believe for one moment that trout, as a general rule, feed either on rats or crochet needles.

Many of your readers will no doubt not be acquainted with the river Yore above Hawes. Opposite that place, and within two miles above, four large feeders join the main stream, each almost as large as the Yore itself above the highest of those feeders. Two of these streams are probably those to which Mr. Corry refers in his "puzzle" to Mr. Ford. Probably the stream mentioned by Mr. Corry, as containing large fish, is one having deeper holes and larger boulders of rock strewn in them, so that it prevents poachers grappling them in a droughy season, as is, I am sorry to say, their extensive practice in that neighbourhood.

I think Mr. Ford must think with me that Mr. Corry is no tyro at salmon fishing if he can grass $6\frac{1}{2}$ lb. of salmon in one hour and a half. The best salmon fishers that I know, including the Hon. and Rev. T. O. Powlett, Captain Chapman, and others, consider themselves lucky to land salmon minutes for pounds—i.e., a 15 lb. salmon in fifteen minutes. When grassed

the fish is to unhook, to kill, the fly and collar to examine, sweat to rub off, good luck to wish to the next fish, and salmon do not rise every cast. It would certainly seem as if Mr. Corry was something more than an apprentice to salmon fishing. I really must apologise for writing so much, but my pen has run away with me.—I am, &c.,
Askrigg, Yorks.

JOHN SKIDMORE.

A VERY LARGE EEL POUT OR BURBOT (*Lota vulgaris*).

SIR,—Mr. William Howlett, the well-known naturalist, of Newmarket, has received very recently from Wisbech, an immense eel pout, weighing close on 6 lb. They are a most repulsive-looking fish, but very delicate for eating, the colour, when cooked, being pink—almost like salmon. They would, if properly kept in ponds made purposely and well fed, be a splendid fish for the table. They are evidently a very ancient fish, for Josephus, the Jewish historian, speaks of them as being very plentiful in the river Nile in the year 1320. The only one in the late Fisheries Exhibition was exhibited by Mr. Howlett, and for which he gained first prize and diploma.—I am, &c., H. G. MERLIN.

[Fossil remains go to show that the fish existed before Adam.—ED.]

QUERY.—TROUT REARING.

SIR,—Some time ago I procured a few dozens of trout eggs (*S. fario*) and amused myself by hatching them out, in a large earthenware pan, with running water. They are now a week old, and very lively. When should I commence to feed them, and how?

I have a large tank to keep them in, until old enough to put into the river. A reply in next GAZETTE will be esteemed as a favour by—
A. C. V.

[You will, of course, have observed the little round oil sac under the belly of the fry. While this lasts it affords nourishment, but when it is nearly exhausted you must grate a little boiled liver, very fine; mix it with a little water in a basin, and feed the fish by dipping a feather into the stuff and then dabbing it on the water, and the minute particles will slowly sink and be eagerly snapped up by the fry. The tank must be supplied with running water.—ED.]

THE LAST DAY OF PIKE FISHING.

SIR,—Last week I invited two of my friends to accompany me to some pike water, and they being tyros I had the gratification of instructing them in the art of "paternostering" &c.

Most of my own time was occupied in showing them how to bait their hooks, cast out their lines, and work their live bait into and about the "nooks and corners" likely to harbour the fish they were intent on catching.

They were apt pupils, and succeeded in capturing 17 nice jack, which, with eight caught by myself, the largest 9 lb., weighed in the aggregate just over 120 lb.—I am, &c.,
38, Old Change, E.C.

ALFRED GEO. JARDINE.

THE HEIGHAM SOUNDS FISHING RIGHTS.

SIR,—The appeal case of Crowther v. Boul, which is the Heigham Sounds Fishing case, came on for hearing on Monday, before Justice Day and Justice Smith. Mr. Pitt Lewis with Mr. Pollock appeared for the appellant, and Mr. Graham for Mr. Boul. And it is much to be regretted that, after all the interest taken in the case by all anglers, and support given, especially to Mr. Lark, as the secretary of the Yarmouth Piscatorialists, that the case should not have been more clearly put before their lordships, for no one in that court could have had any other feeling but that their lordships should have known who and what the Yarmouth Piscatorialists were, what was the point at issue that gave the local magistrates power to convict, and also some idea of the locality where these waters are situate? It seemed strange that no one seemed to know what kind of fish were caught, whether salt or fresh, water, or both? It does seem strange that the notes of evidence should only be a newspaper report, and it seems more strange to hear that the Yarmouth Society is stated to be only a few innkeepers who want to entice people from London for trade purposes. Why, Sir, I have read of many good influential gentlemen attending a dinner there of the society when first established. I have read repeatedly in your columns of a president, vice-president, chairman, and committee of that society. You yourself have pleaded and urged Mr. Lark's cause, and subscribed too on their behalf; and yet when the case came on, it had to be adjourned till the following day for production of the notes of the magistrates. Then when the next day came, put back for goodness knows when, for the magistrates to supply their notes of the case. This is really too bad. I may ask, where did Mr. Lark get the evidence in the pamphlet sent to many societies? Either he or someone else is greatly to blame in this matter; and I hope that he who so earnestly pleaded his cause in London some time ago, will next week give you a reply to satisfy your readers, about the position his society is in. Perhaps his services have been too well paid for, and he is careless. I do not want to be too hard on anyone, but there is a great error somewhere. I read the pamphlet sent by him where it appears to any one that the magistrates held it was private water. Why, Sims Reeve, their counsel, asked the chairman not to give an opinion until the case was complete, and I also know the words made use of by the magistrates when the fine was inflicted. I also say that Mr. Lark, if he knew the question was one of tide, should have supplemented the case with other evidence, as he was advised to do. I also read in the local newspapers, at the time Mr. Lark was in London, that the case would only decide the jurisdiction of the magistrates. Upon whose authority was that statement put forth? Was it to upset the case? It is simply absurd for a judge to be told that the tide went up thirteen times a year. Why, any visiting anglers to that place know better than this. I hope, Sir, you will find space for this, and wake up the Yarmouth Piscatorialists to their true position, which no doubt they will see is a very painful one just now in the eyes of the angling public.—I am, &c.,
J. B.

[We are somewhat astonished to get this letter, as it certainly appears, if the statements made are true, that the money subscribed by London anglers to defend a good case is simply being muddled away. We must ask Mr. Lark for an explanation.—ED.]

SALE OF OUT-OF-CONDITION TROUT IN LONDON, &c.

SIR,—Possibly you will consider the following of sufficient interest for insertion in the FISHING GAZETTE. On the 8th February last, I saw considerable numbers of trout on the stalls of several London fishmongers. Most of them appeared to be nice, bright little fish, of about four to the pound, but very far short of what could be called in good condition. I found a similar lot for sale at my own fishmonger's, at 2s. a pound. Here is the sum of his answers to my questions:—"Yes, sir, they are Irish trout, from Loch Neagh. Of course they are not in good condition,—it is far too early. Why, only the other day I was opening one, a fine one, and it was all full of roe, just ready to spawn—all the eggs were quite separate in the fish." Will you permit me to

suggest that, in any new Act for the Freshwater Fisheries, a clause should be inserted forbidding trout being exposed for sale before a certain date—say the 1st April? I am sure that few trout are in good condition before that date. Of course trout differ greatly in condition in different localities, and I should be the last person to wish to stop the early angling. There is a wide difference, however, between a fisherman taking home a basket of trout in somewhat low condition, and a fine-meshed net sweeping our rivers and lochs early in February for the market. I trust my letter may be of sufficient importance to draw forth some editorial remarks, which, unless I am mistaken, will be in favour of the suggestion I have made.—I am, &c.,
Godalming.

ANGLER.

[We need hardly say we entirely agree with "Angler"; indeed, we would go further, and say that no angling for trout should be permitted until the fish are in condition—if they are not fit to eat they are not fit to catch. The shows of trout on the fishmongers' stalls at this time of the year are often a disgrace to any honest tradesman.—ED.]

RAILWAY FACILITIES.

SIR,—“Piscator,” and brother anglers generally, will be pleased to learn that the great railway companies—the Midland and Great Northern—grant “facilities” for travelling in this district on such liberal terms as deserve, and have, the best thanks of fishermen, among whom is—
Bradford.

A BRADFORD WALTONIAN.

A CONGRATULATION.

SIR,—Having been a subscriber to the FISHING GAZETTE since its establishment, allow me to congratulate you upon the many valuable improvements you have made in it since you took the Editorial chair, and the high tone you have imparted to it. As an advertising medium I can, from my own personal experience, speak most highly of it, a considerable portion of my present success being due to advertising in its columns, as numerous and increasing inquiries daily testify.—I am, &c.,
D. SLATER,

Newark-on-Trent.

Fishing Tackle Maker.

ELLESMERE, SALOP.

SIR,—I have received the enclosed letter from Mr. Cecil C. Baker, and shall feel obliged if you will let it appear in the FISHING GAZETTE, as the best means of procuring the necessary information.—I am, &c.,
36, Vyse Street, Birmingham, Jan. 2. 8184.

JAMES GREGORY.

“Bridgewater Estate Office,

“Ellesmere, Salop,

“Jan. 2, 1884.

“DEAR SIR,—I write to ask if you will kindly advise me, from your great experience as hon. sec. of the Birmingham and Midland Piscatorial Association, how to improve the fishing of the meres in this district. There are eight of various sizes, but the treatment of one would equally apply to the others. I will, therefore, briefly describe the most important one, Ellesmere, which is perhaps, not unknown to yourself or members of your association. It is 118 acres in extent, and 60 ft. to 70 ft. deep in places. It abounds with pike, roach, perch, bream, and other coarse fish and eels. It has not been properly or systematically netted for many years on account of the weeds (we have no trammel nets). There is no regular stream running in or out; it is fed principally by direct rainfall, assisted by a few springs; and the only outlet is through the town sewers.

“On behalf of Lord Brownlow, who owns the mere, and also for the benefit of the numerous visitors (principally anglers) to this very pretty neighbourhood, I wish to find out the best way of managing the water so as to produce the best sport, and also a supply of food—at all events to pay expenses of management.

“Once a year the mere ‘breaks,’—that is, early in August (earlier or later according to the heat of the summer) the mere becomes gradually like pea-soup, and then gradually gets clearer till the end of September, when the millions of minute organisms subside or disappear. Nobody fishes much during the ‘breaking’ season.

“The boatman tells me that the pike fishing is not nearly as good as it used to be; he accounts for it by the presence of such a large quantity of coarse fish for the pike to feed on, since the netting was discontinued. There have been no records kept of the quantity of fish taken, but I am striving to keep one this year. I should be very glad if you could give me some idea of the quantity of pike, roach, &c., the mere ought to yield annually from legitimate angling, and whether some of the coarse fish should be taken out by netting, and if so what quantity?

“I expect the swans demolish a good deal of spawn; but as there are only two pair as a rule on the mere during the spawning season, I don't suppose they do so very much damage. In the spring the old birds drive off the young ones and keep them off till the young hatch out, but in the winter and sometimes during August and September, there are as many as 30 to 40 swans. The eggs are never destroyed, or the swans interfered with in any way.

“Would you recommend the introduction of the American black bass? or an improved species of carp or perch? What is the perch-pike like, and could it be introduced to advantage? I shall be very grateful for any information you can give me on any of the points I have mentioned, and hoping that you will pardon my troubling you,

“I am, Dear Sir,

“Yours faithfully,

“CECIL C. BAKER.

“James Gregory, Esq.”

[We shall be very glad if some of our readers who may have had experience of large sheets of water like Ellesmere will give us their ideas as to the best means to adopt to accomplish what Mr. Baker desires—perhaps some of our German readers can give us practical information on the matter. It appears to us that it would be advisable largely to increase the stock of pike, both by putting pike in from other waters and by taking off the swans, at any rate, during the time the pike are spawning; for although two swans might be supposed to do little damage in such a large sheet of water, it must be remembered that the pike congregate to spawn in a few suitable shallow, weedy places, especially among beds of rushes, just where the swans can most easily get at the spawn, and they would eat an immense quantity in a week. When pike can get as much food in the shape of fish as they can eat, it is always a difficult matter to get them to take the angler's bait. If the coarse fish are increasing in number they ought to be thinned out by netting, and this can best be done in a deep water like this when they begin to frequent the shallower parts for the purpose of spawning. The larger fish should be returned to the water, and a large proportion of the small ones could easily be sold for stocking other waters. If the fish are increasing, and are not thinned out in this way, there will in time not be enough food for them, and this always means great quantities of small fish

not worth catching. The "break" of the mere alluded to by Mr. Baker is probably caused by the fish stirring up the soft bottom of the mere. This mere, like Fritton Decoy, "swarms" with coarse fish, especially bream, and the same "break" occurs in Fritton Decoy at the same time of year, it then though in the colder months clear, becomes like pea-soup. Exactly the same thing occurs in a piece of water we rent, only not to the same extent; it also contains bream, tench, carp, roach, &c. In June or July the water generally gets rather thick, and remains so till late in the autumn and then clears, so that one can see the bottom through twelve feet of water. We would suggest to Mr. Baker that the best way to obtain funds to improve and maintain the fishing would be to make a small charge for angling—say 3d. per day for bottom, and 6d. for pike fishing. No angler could object to this, as it would enable him to obtain better sport. We should advise the cultivation of perch by means of the Lund hatching box as described in Mr. R. B. Marston's paper on "Coarse Fish Culture." * The perch affords the angler good sport, and is also by far the best of allcoarse fish for the table. It would require such a great number of black bass to enable them to establish themselves among such quantities of other fish, that the experiment would be far too expensive to justify a trial of this fish, and the same may be said of the pike-perch. Once get a water well stocked with black bass and anglers would pay to fish for them as much or more than they often do now for trout fishing. But the experiment should be tried in a water from which all other fish have been cleared out, as was done by the Marquis of Exeter, in "White Water," a reservoir which supplies the town of Stamford. The black bass in this water are doing remarkably well, and we hear that his lordship caught some over two pounds weight with fly last autumn; also some heavy trout which were placed in the lake as fry with a view to feed the bass. The fact that these trout have done so well proves the bass to be by no means such a voracious exterminator of other fish as some writers assert. Mr. Silk informs us the bass have spawned the last two or three seasons, and as five or six hundred were put in originally, there must now be many thousands of this fish in "White Water." Trusting unwisely to the statement's of some American writers that the bass will hold its own even against pike, we placed about thirty fine fish, ranging in weight from 1½ lb. down to 3 or 4 oz., in the water above referred to containing some pike. With the exception of taking one with the fly and seeing one or two now and then, we cannot say what has become of them, but fear they have all been turned into pike by this time, as we found one of the largest nearly dead, with its sides terribly scored by a pike's teeth. A hundred trout placed in the water at the same time as the bass all disappeared within a month or two, although while they lived they thrived wonderfully, and were rising all day long in company with the rudd. The fact is, the habits of the black bass cause it to fall a very easy prey to the pike. It goes sailing slowly along the edges of the weeds, and will stop almost motionless for ten minutes at a time in some opening between the weeds. This is all the pike asks for. But when rising at a fly, or when startled, the bass moves with wonderful celerity, and the one we did get with the fly fought, for its size, better than any other fish we ever had hold of.—ED.]

[P.S.—Since writing the above, a young friend caught one of our black bass when worm-fishing for perch. It was thin, but otherwise in good condition. Since then he has taken two others, one a fish in fine condition which fought splendidly.—ED.]

A FISHING TACKLE MAKERS' CLUB.

SIR,—We have the pleasure of inclosing a copy of the balance-sheet of the Sick Club connected with our factory, which has been in existence for two years only, and is supported by a subscription of one penny per week, supplemented by fines of a halfpenny in each case of late arrival to work by the employes. As you will observe, at the commencement of the year there was a balance in hand of £34 16s. 1d., and during the year £47 15s. 8d. in sick pay, and £45 10s. bonus to members, and £8 8s. subscriptions to hospitals has been paid out, leaving a balance of £27 4s. 8d. in hand. This speaks volumes for what can be done by workpeople at a cost of less than twopence each per week. Our object in laying before you these facts is, if you think well to notice it in your paper, to induce workpeople of other factories to do a similar thing, and thus help themselves in times of sickness, and also to assist charitable institutions at such trifling cost to themselves.—We are, &c., S. ALLCOCK AND CO. Redditch.

STANDARD WORKS SICK CLUB.

BALANCE SHEET, YEAR ENDING DEC. 31, 1883.

Dr.		£	s.	d.
To disbursements:				
Sick Pay	47	15	8	
Stationery	1	16	0	
Surgeon's Fees	0	3	0	
Steward's Salary	3	10	0	
Allowance	0	7	6½	
To Subscriptions:				
Queen's Hospital, Birmingham	1	1	0	
Children's	2	2	0	
Eye	2	2	0	
General	1	1	0	
"	2	2	0	
Bonus	45	10	0	
Balance	27	4	8	
	£134	14	10½	
Cr.		£	s.	d.
By Balance	34	16	1	
By Contributions:				
to Sick Fund	48	10	8	
Hospital	9	18	0	
Fines	41	5	1½	
Sick Pay refunded	0	5	0	
	£134	14	10½	
Balance	£27	4	8	

[This is a very interesting statement, and deserves the attention of all interested in the working classes.—ED.]

* "Coarse Fish Culture." A paper read at one of the recent Fisheries Exhibition Conferences. Published by W. Clowes and Sons, Charing Cross. Price 6d.

A PIKE ANGLING TRIP.

SIR,—After such performances as those of Messrs. Jardine, Brett, and Sachs, we fear our takes will pale into insignificance. Still, considering we have not access to a well-preserved private fishery, but have to take such sport as a public one affords, we have every reason to be satisfied with our late angling trip. Our "old friend John" and I make a point of going on the war path once in a season, and the remembrance of these outings are cherished by us as of our most enjoyable pleasures. Our friend needs but to propose, and we soon dispose. Our tackle, of the most primitive kind, would scarcely pass muster in the hands of pikists aforementioned: broken-backed rods, "split cane" (split with hard usage and like a broken-kneed spavined horse, boasting numerous lengthy bandages), gimp thick as fourth fiddle-string, anchor-sized hooks, tied on with black thread, coated liberally with cobbler's wax, and such a bait—oh, my! An old saying in this part goes, "Set a sprat to catch a mackerel." We paraphrase that by, "Set a sprat to catch a pike."

"Of all the baits for catching jack,
Commend us to a pickled sprat."

We literally salt them, and like a dace in a consumption, but tougher, they spin capitially. So plentiful are they at this time of the year that farmers actually use tons of them for manuring the land. What a shame! Contrast this with the scant supply of live bait, and you will no longer wonder at our using sprats. But of their effectiveness—what of that? Why, sir, within the past ten days or fortnight over one hundred fish, to my knowledge, have fallen victims to this lure. That's a character good enough, isn't it? On our first and only day together eleven pike were landed, weighing 44½ lb., the two best 9½ and 7 lb.; second day, one rod, four fish 18 lb.; third day, a good one of 9½ lb., a "masher," who took liberties with our tackle, shearing it off like so much thread. Mentally we promised to renew our acquaintance next day, and faithfully kept our promise. We had not made more than half a dozen casts before our invitation to lunch was accepted, and a plucky fight he made of it. Another angling friend of ours, a B. A. A., which may be read either "Bachelor of Art of Angling" or "Boston Angling Associate," had a similar encounter in the same waters with a grand fish of about 12 lb., but unfortunately William was left lamenting. Did he ejaculate something loud and deep? His blue looks certainly led me to think he did. We wish him better luck next time. We had a singular experience, safely landing two fish together on one flight of hooks; pike No. 2, riled, no doubt, at his smaller neighbour taking liberties with the tit-bit intended for himself, disputed possession. No. 1 doubled back, ducking his head *a la* Roger de Coverley, probably to avoid a black eye or something worse, and most effectively looped the gimp trace round No. 2's lower jaw, literally snaring him, and a merry dance they made of it. Both were grassed. We heard of a rev. gentleman, on two occasions, taking from our Boston waters as many fish as he could comfortably carry. Messrs. Bothamley and Day have done equally well, over fifty fish falling to their two rods; the latter gentleman's take included a brace of beauties, scaling 11 lb. and 9 lb. respectively. Considering the large and unprecedented number of good-sized fish taken lately out of the Boston waters, it looks as though the poachers had left us a few to amuse ourselves with. Now, ye merry Sheffield Tykes, wait a few days for the waters to fine down a bit, then come in your thousands—there's fish enough for all.—I am, &c., THE BOSTON BITTERN.

LONG SHORE CONGERING.
HOW TO COOK CONGER.

SIR,—After the indifferent sport we have had here for the last year or so, it is pleasant to be able to chronicle some good takes.

Since the commencement of November, the conger have been very plentiful along shore, as have also squid, which, however, are not so attractive as bait in the shallow water as in the offing. Whiting pout (here called blains) are plentiful, and run very large. When fishing with Mr. Irvine Neave, close to the cliffs to the eastward, on the night of the great gale, Mr. Neave, in hauling up a conger some 20 lb., brought in my line as well with a pout on it weighing 3 lb. 2 oz. This is, I believe, the largest on record caught in shallow water, though some exceeding that weight have been caught in the offing.

There is, to my mind, no sport to equal congering in winter, assuming the fisher is not afraid of the cold, or getting his hands dirty—in fact, if he is not what Wilcocks calls "a stern sheets fisherman."

Now I will take Friday last as a typical evening, though we have on many occasions greatly exceeded the catch.

Mr. Neave and self started at 3 p.m., provided with four dozen herrings and a gallon of mussels.

After a pull of 2 miles, we bring up within 100 yards of the cliff in 3 fathoms of water. Out go the pout lines, baited with herring and mussels; no bite for half an hour; then, at 4.40, we pull up with hooks clean.

"Look out," says Neave, "we shall have them in a minute." Hardly are the words out when they come on the feed hard and fast for some 20 minutes, when they go off, and with 4 dozen good ones in the basket we wind up the small lines, and out go the conger lines, baited with herrings. Then begins the serious business of the evening, and after an hour the congiers go off; and having got four, the best 25 lb., and a skate 40 lb., we up killick, and so get ashore and haul our boat up on the beach by 7.15, dirty, slimy, and with a strong professional bouquet, but happy, and with a thirst on us the envy of the fellows we find at the hotel, where we go to show our catch.

We have not tried the pollack, but Dr. Brushfield made a very fine catch on Saturday, having 32 fish from 3 lb. to 8 lb. The doctor certainly takes the shine out of all of us at pollack fishing. I used to think I knew something about it, but I am not in it with him.

And now a word as to the conger when caught. It is only this year I have found out how good they are as a breakfast fish when cured. I have to thank Mr. H. Cawd, of this place, for the receipt. Clean, split and take out the backbone, then cut the fish into three pieces—if a very large one, four—salt for two days, and then have it smoked. To cook: put a piece about 2 or 3 lb. into a saucepan, in cold water; when it has boiled for half-an-hour take out, let it drain, and put some butter on it. It will be perfectly tender, and, in my humble opinion, equal, if not superior, to any smoked haddock.—I am, &c., Budeigh Sallerton. E. GOSLING.

CAPTURE OF A TADPOLE FISH.

SIR,—While pout fishing here on December 20th I took a tadpole fish—*Raniceps trifurcus*. Bait, a small piece of herring and a mussel; distance from the shore, not more than 250 yards; depth of water, 3½ fathoms. As the fish is not only rare, but, from all authorities, essentially an inhabitant of very deep water, its occurrence so near the shore is worthy of note. I forwarded it to Dr. Günther at South Kensington.—I am, &c., Budleigh Salterton. E. GOSLING.

CLUB REPORTS.

ACT-ON-THE-SQUARE ANGLING SOCIETY.

The second competition for the challenge prize of this society came off on Saturday last, March 1st, at St. Margaret's, and under decidedly more favourable conditions as to weather than the first competition, although the fish were right off the feed. This prize, which had to be won twice in succession, or three times in all if missed once, was, strange to say, won on both first and second occasions by Mr. R. R. Mills, and thus becomes his property. Our member, Mr. T. H. Clark, was successful in landing a very fine chub of 4 lb. 2 oz., at the Rye House, upon one occasion, and on another occasion he unfortunately lost one, which he describes as as big as a baby. Messrs. Chapman and George were among the roach at the Rye House before the east winds set in; since then the result has been *nil*.—A. GEORGE, sec. pro tem.

AMICABLE BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

On the 2nd inst. Mr. Lewis, roach and dace, 2½ lb., from Pulborough; Mr. Partrick, roach, 7 lb.; Mr. Dwelley, perch, 13 oz., roach, 1 lb. 2 oz., dace, 5½ oz.—J. WORLEDGE.

ANCHOR AND HOPE ANGLING SOCIETY.

Several members of this society competed for four prizes on the 2nd inst., roving, go where you please, the following being the result:—Mr. Gardner, first, dace, from the Wey; Mr. Badcock, second, roach and perch, from the Thames; Mr. J. Bowling, third, bream, from Amberley.—D. DAVIS, sec.

ANGLERS' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

Since my last report I beg to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of annual subscription of £1 1s. from F. H. Lemann (Piscatorial Society).—R. GHURNEY, sec.

BRENTFORD PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

The members of this society held their weekly meeting on Thursday evening, February 28th, at the Seven Stars Hotel, Brentford. There was a good attendance, and the club is now in a very flourishing condition. Mr. Horace White and Mr. J. Godfrey placed upon the table 157 fine dace, including a few roach, weighing 27 lb., caught at Twickenham. Mr. H. Harris, a short time back, captured a splendid pike, weighing 17 lb. 1 oz., which has been sent to Mr. Cooper to be set up. Messrs. T. W. Wright and W. Bowyer caught twelve fine jack between them, the largest weighing 6½ lb.—W. BOWYER, sec.

BRISTOL GOLDEN CARP ANGLING ASSOCIATION.

Mr. F. Cox, of Villa Road, Berkely Square, Clifton, in a day's fishing at Chippenham, succeeded in landing a roach weighing 1 lb. 12 oz., and one 1 lb. 5½ oz., with several others nearly a pound, the catch weighing 26 lb. This is most creditable, as Mr. Cox is only a young angler, but has succeeded in getting many good catches this season, not being far behind many older angling members of the above flourishing and stable association, who have weighed in several large catches.—WM. HADDEN.

BURDETT ANGLING SOCIETY.

The following members have weighed in since my last report:—Mr. Hammond, roach and dace, 5 lb. 6 oz.; Mr. Eaton, chub and roach, 3 lbs. 11½ oz.; Mr. W. N. Elves, dace and roach, 3 lbs. 15½ oz.; Mr. Hastings, roach, 1 lb. 5 oz.; J. Whitmore, roach, 13 oz.; Mr. Wilson, chub and roach 1 lb. 10 oz.; Mr. Flint, roach, 8½ oz. and Mr. Kroob, roach, 6 oz.—T. G. WALKER.

CENTRAL ASSOCIATION OF LONDON ANGLING CLUBS

The next delegate meeting will take place on Friday, March 14th, at nine o'clock. Delegates are specially requested to attend.—J. FITCH, jun., sec.

CITY OF LONDON ANGLING SOCIETY.

Several members out on the 2nd, only two weighing in fish, Messrs. Chambers and Castell each nearly having 3 lb. of roach, dace, and perch, from the Thames, at Wraysbury. On the 9th our members will compete at Penton Hook for several prizes.—CAS.

COBDEN ANGLING SOCIETY.

The supper in connection with our match of the 17th February, took place on Thursday, the 28th ult., and was well attended. Mr. Dynes, of the Cobden Club, catered, and provided everything to the utmost satisfaction of every one present. After the cloth was removed, several toasts were proposed and received with acclamation. Mr. Cox, in the chair, gave "Success to the Cobden Angling Society," and made a few well-chosen remarks upon the increase in the number of members that had lately taken place, as also on the general prosperity of the society. Mr. Reeves responded with a short speech, and called upon Mr. Cox to sing the first song; this he did, giving "Nil Desperandum" in a very effective style. Mr. Reeves followed with "Tom Bowling," which was well received. Mr. W. Jenkins came out particularly well with "Sweet Mary Jones." Then followed Mr. Simpson with "Britannia's the Pride of the Ocean"; after which a short interval ensued for general conversation. On the chairman resuming his seat a vote of thanks was passed to Messrs. Maples, Giles, and Stead for their kind contributions to the supper and match. A similar vote was also passed to Mr. Dynes for the very efficient manner in which he had provided for the comfort of the members. Mr. Hamman then sang "Wedding Days of Old," and Mr. G. Jenkins "Jack's as Good as his Master." Both these songs evidently pleased the company, as the choruses were sung with great enthusiasm. Mr. Giles gave a very pretty song, "The Cot in the Valley I Love," and was much applauded. Messrs. Jerrard, Hookham, Maples, Knight, and Philpott each obliged the company, and met with the approbation of all present. The evening's entertainment was brought to a close by Mr. Jeffs (who is well-known in the musical performances at the Cobden Club) singing "She was such a Charmer." It is hardly necessary to say that it was well received, as is almost anything that he sings, he having a very effective and masterly style. The company separated just before 12 o'clock, evidently much pleased with the evening's entertainment.—C. REEVES, Sec.

DALSTON ANGLING SOCIETY.

On the 2nd we had a very nice show of chub, roach, and perch. Will members kindly give us a look-up between this and the end of the month?—S. MALBY.

EALING DEAN CONVIVIAL ANGLING SOCIETY.

Messrs. West, Gordon, and a friend had fair sport at Twickenham on Saturday last. Mr. West's take was the best, being 7 lb. of dace.—J. G. LEGRYS, hon. sec.

EXCELSIOR ANGLING SOCIETY.

Only five members were out on the 3rd inst. Mr. Saffery weighed a nice jack from Staines, 3½ lb.; Mr. Brown, Mr. Barnett, Mr. W. Hopkins, and your humble servant all had very good takes of roach and dace from the Colne and Thames. The return visit of the South London United took place at our club house on Monday, the 4th instant. Ten clubs were represented, Mr. J. H. Hopkins taking the chair, faced by Mr. Godfrey in the vice. The chairman opened the harmony with "The Anchor's Weighed"; then followed Mr. George, 2nd Surrey, comic, "Lather and Shave Him"; Mr. Tuddenham, Excelsior, "The Village Blacksmith"; Mr. Allard, South-Eastern, "Powder Monkey Jim"; Mr. Chapman, 2nd Surrey, "Barry Flynn"; Mr. Watts, United Brothers, "Up to Dick"; Mr. Bartlett, visitor, "Oh, What a Mug"; Mr. France, Angler's Pride, "Death of Nelson"; Mr. Wright, 2nd Surrey, "The Village Snob"; Mr. Holbourn, South-Eastern, "Four Jolly Smiths"; Mr. Matthews, visitor, "Holy Friar"; Mr. Stedall, Peckham Brothers, "Tit Bits"; Mr. Parsons, 2nd Surrey, "Pink Dominoes"; Mr. Barnett, Excelsior, Mr. Herrow, St. Albans, a contributing harmony, accompanied by Mr. Watts on the piano, and Mr. A. Lambert, a member of the Excelsior, on the violin. The wind-up song was given by Mr. Host Fiddes, of the Angler's Pride, singing "Jolly Dogs" in good style. "Auld Lang Syne" was sung in different keys. We dispersed to our different abodes, having spent a very enjoyable evening.—J. H. HOPKINS, sec.

GOOD INTENT ANGLING SOCIETY.

The following are particulars of match fished at Broxtoune on the 21st inst. Forty competed, but seven only were winners out of twelve prizes, in order of merit, namely, Mr. Hames, 1st., Mr. Bates, 2nd, Mr. Beel, 3rd, Mr. T. Pluckrose, 4th, Mr. Fortescue, 5th, Mr. W. Wheeler, 6th, Mr. Oimes, 7th. The return visit of the West Central took place last Monday, the following clubs being represented: Hoxton Brothers, Original Alexandrias, Clerkenwell Piscatorials, Amicable Brothers, Anglers' Pride, Bostonian, City of London, Cambridge Friendly, Duke of Norfolk, The Globe, Hammersmith United, Knights of Knightbridge, Peckham Brothers, Queen's Reform, St. John's. I may perhaps mention the kind assistance of the musicians, Messrs. Syloe, introduced by Messrs. Hall and Huggett, also the two Black Eagles, Negroes Messrs. S. Payne and F. Bulcraig, introduced by your humble (*pro tem.*) correspondent. I may add that the visit was a great success.—I am, &c., WILLIAM BULLING (for R. MURPHY, sec.)

GREAT GRIMSBY ANGLING ASSOCIATION

This club fished a match on the 5th inst., for a number of prizes. Will send account of result for next week.—I. GREEN, sec.

GREAT NORTHERN BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

On the 2nd inst, Mr. J. Dingley showed 12 lb. 6 oz. of fine roach; Mr. Theobald, 7½ lb.; Mr. Stammer, one chub, 1 lb.; Mr. Armstrong, one chub, 1½ lb.; Mr. G. Watling, roach, 5 lb. 3 oz.; Mr. J. Watling, 4 lb. 14 oz.; Mr. Warren, 4 lb. 3 oz.; Messrs. King, Baker, Groves, and C. Watling also had roach and dace.—J. FITCH, sec.

GRESHAM ANGLING SOCIETY.

The usual weekly meeting of the above society was held on Tuesday evening at the Masons' Hall Tavern, Masons' Avenue Basinghall Street; Mr. Godwin (hon. solicitor) in the chair. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Captain Alfred proposed, and Mr. Crumplen seconded, the Rev. George Sumner as a member of the society, and he was ordered to be balloted for on the 18th instant. Mr. Crumplen reported that he had received a letter from the Society for the Preservation of Commons and Open Spaces, by which he was pleased to see that they had taken in hand the question of encroachments on anglers' rights in the Thames. They had undertaken to have the matter brought up in the House of Commons, and a select committee would be asked, for the letter concluded by requesting that the Gresham Society would petition the House of Commons, and a form of the suggested petition was enclosed. The chairman, after expressing the indebtedness of anglers to the society which had so kindly taken up matters in their behalf, stated that he had adapted the petition to the requirements of the Gresham members, and assisted by Captain Alfred, would get as many signatures to it as the short time at their disposal would permit. He also suggested that Lord George Hamilton (president of the Gresham Society) should be requested to present the petition. The chairman's suggestion was agreed to, nem. con., and also a further suggestion of his, that his lordship's opposition should be asked to the Freshwater Fisheries Act, which has already passed the second reading. Mr. Field stated that the Central Association had resolved on a similar course, and that he would on Friday urge the East Central to take the same steps in the matter. Mr. Lark, of the Great Yarmouth Piscatorial Society, attended, and gave an account of the proceedings in the Court of Queen's Bench, with reference to the appeal against the magistrates' decision as to the right of fishing in Heigham Sounds; the result of Tuesday's proceedings being that the Court had referred the matter back to the magistrates to state a case. A letter was also read from the Great Yarmouth Society sending twelve honorary memberships as a token of their appreciation of the pecuniary assistance which they had received from the members of the Gresham. Dr. Tucker weighed in two very fine roach, and Mr. Crumplen presented a framed copy of the photograph of the anglers who took part in the last Lord Mayor's procession, for which he was accorded a vote of thanks. Mr. Crumplen and Mr. Harding, who had been out fishing the preceding day, reported a very successful catch; but finding the fish to be full of spawn, they felt it their duty to return them to the water; otherwise an excellent show would have been made by them. They recommended that the perch competition fixed for Tuesday next should, in consequence of the forward state of the spawning season, be postponed for a time. After some remarks by Mr. Clarke, who thought that this was a matter which should have been considered before the contest was announced, it was resolved to postpone the competition till after the close time. The secretary was instructed to give each member a notice of the postponement. A supper has been arranged for the 28th inst.; notice of this has been sent to each member. Mr. Harding relieved Mr. Godwin of the duties of the chair during the later portion of the evening, which was brought to a close with the usual musical selections.—H.

HOXTON BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

A few members were out on the 2nd inst. W. High had a fair show of nice roach from the Ouse; G. H. Wood, perch, from the Thames; E. Johnson, jack, from the Colne. The annual supper of this society will take place, in the commodious club-room, on Tuesday, March 25th.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

IZAAK WALTON ANGLING SOCIETY.

Mr. F. A. Hawthorne had some handsome chub on March 2nd, and Mr. J. Barnes had a nice jack on the same day. Mr. G. Wood had a tray of very pretty roach and dace on Wednesday. As published last week, the members will compete for six special prizes on the 9th inst. at Sawbridgeworth. The particulars of prizes are—a prize value one guinea, given by Mr. J. Twohey; half guinea, by Mr. T. Dennison; half guinea, by Mr. W. Mechem; half guinea, by Mr. G. Bliss; a gold pin, by Mr. James Hegley (the Little Wonder), and a prize by Mr. H. Butt. It being the last "Special" of the season it is hoped that every member will endeavour to be present.—H. B.

LINCOLN ANGLING SOCIETY.

Our members went out on the 2nd, but unfortunately met with inferior sport, bringing home empty bags. We were just about to give it up for a bad job, when in came our one-armed champion, Mr. Bingley, from Marlow, with a very pretty show of roach and perch, scaling 4 lb. 10 oz. We fish on the 9th at Sunbury, for a sweepstake and added money. Our first annual supper takes place on March 17th.—F. W. TODD, sec.

NEWCASTLE AND GATESHEAD IZAAK WALTON ANGLING ASSOCIATION.

Two of our members—Messrs. R. Dodds and G. Heron—commenced the season on Saturday week, in the Tyne, at Hexham, and although there was a stiff south-east wind blowing, they showed eighteen trout at their club-house, Masons' Arms, Newgate Street. I tried the same place on the Wednesday, and grassed nine trout with the worm, although the water was very low. Mr. Lamb and the hostess's son tried the Tyne, at Prudhoe, on Tuesday week, and they showed at the club-house a very fair basket of fifteen trout. There will be no fishing here for some days to come as there are about two inches of snow on the ground.—J. MAJOR.

[Yes; we shall be glad to insert them.—ED.]

ORIGINAL CLERKENWELL PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

The following members have weighed in since my last report:—Mr. Edwards, jack and roach, 6 lb. 15 oz.; Mr. Craffard, roach and chub, 4 lb. 1 oz.; Mr. Obbard, roach and perch, 5½ lb.; Mr. Kent, perch and roach, 2 lb. 5½ oz.; Mr. Richardson, roach. Fishing at Ware, on the 2nd inst., with one of our members, I landed a fine trout for Mr. Laundry, which was between 5 and 6 lb. It bit steel, but not for the last time; on taking the hook out it was returned to the river not any the worse for its short visit on *terra firma*. The next Eastern District visit will take place at the White Hart, Aylesbury Street, Clerkenwell, on Monday next, when we hope to have a good muster.—J. OBBARD.

PECKHAM BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

The members of this club will wind up the season with a match for club prizes on the 9th at Shepperton. "The Poet" saved the society from a blank on the 2nd by weighing in perch from the Thames. Two of our members paid a visit to Wraybury; they had the pleasure of spending a few hours in the company of Mr. T. Hoole, who, they say, has lost none of the interest he had in anglers and their sport, and is still on the look-out for anything likely to benefit them. Our annual dinner takes place on the 25th, A. Brodie, Esq., president, in the chair.—GADFLY.

PHENIX ANGLING SOCIETY.

There was a large meeting of working and honorary members of the above society on the 5th inst., and a lot of important business was gone through; every member looked in the best of spirits, and smiling faces all round, and the business of the society went on very cosy. On the 3rd inst. Mr. A. Ashley had a capital show of roach from the Thames, the largest turning the scale 1 lb. 14½ oz.; Mr. F. Ashley, perch and roach from the Thames; Mr. Glyn, a fine show of perch from his new-found-out, but hopes to have a grand show before the season is over. Mr. Slater, perch and gudgeon from the Thames. Three special club prizes will be fished for at Bourne End on March 9th, for first, second, and third gross weight, all members to get out at Bourne End Station and go where they like. Hope all the members will muster together on the last outing of the season.—J. G.

PORTSMOUTH WALTONIAN ANGLING SOCIETY.

Thursday last was a red-letter day for the above society, when several of the members went on a roving commission, pike fishing. The day was all that could be wished for. The early morning train took a party to Selham and Petworth, where some of the boys did sad havoc among the pike. Among the most successful at the former place was Mr. Ritchie, who contrived to bag over 20 lb. of fine fish, the largest scaling over 7 lb., besides a very handsome trout weighing 1½ lb., in splendid condition, spinning. At Petworth, Messrs. Roots and Redward had also a large catch—over 35 lb. weight, several scaling 6 and 7 lb., spinning. At Chichester Canal, several worked hard, but they returned with empty creels. The fish were all exhibited in the club room the same evening, to the great delight of the members. Mr. Buck (the president) also read a paper on "Spinning for Trout," explaining the various artificial baits now in use for their capture. The last of the successful smoking concerts takes place on the 6th inst., when a good muster is anticipated in the large club room, the Golden Fleece Hotel, Commercial Road, Landport.—DAGGERWOOD.

RODNEY PISCATORIALS.

On the 2nd inst. Mr. Grant had a nice lot of roach, dace, and bream, from Shepperton. Mr. Millar has sent home the 4lb. bream taken a short time ago by the above-named gentleman, and it gives great satisfaction on comparing it with those taken as above; the fins and tail are the same colour, viz., nearly a jet black, and not dark grey, as is generally seen in some bream.—PIXIE.

SOCIABLE BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

On the 2nd inst. Mr. Strange had dace and a very pretty jack scaling 6 lb., also a fine grayling weighing 1 lb. 1½ oz. (this has been sent for preservation); Mr. Spenceley had perch. A special prize on the 9th inst. for best show of fish.—W. S. W.

SOUTH-EASTERN ANGLING SOCIETY.

The 2nd inst. was our outing day at Windsor, ten members out of fifteen only

showing up. Sport was rather dull, the Boy being at the top of the score again. A jovial day was spent at a peg down. First prize, 15s. and ¼ lb. tobacco, won by J. Smith, junr.; second prize, 10s., won by Mr. Ewens; third prize, 7s. 6d., won by Mr. Gold; fourth prize, 5s., and a pair of fretwork brackets, won by Mr. Freyer. A good meeting at headquarters, Host Frith's, was held after the return to town. Wednesday—A good meeting at headquarters, plenty of business got through. Members look out for the 9th., and the balance of season prizes—prizes on the board. A petition to Parliament, through the Southwark and Crown Alliance Rowing Club, in opposition to the blocking of Eyots and Backwaters, was discussed and signed by all present. Also the J. G. James Testimonial Fund, which was well received by all present. Prizes of the 2nd inst. to be presented next Wednesday. The annual supper then was discussed. A dozen names were then given in.—T. H. WESTON, sec.

ST. JOHN'S ANGLING SOCIETY.

The trays of this society were well filled on the 2nd inst. with roach, dace, perch, jack, and chub, from the Thames and Lea. Mr. Davis had a nice show of dace and roach from the Lea; Mr. Goudge, roach from the Thames; Mr. Young, jack; Mr. Lea, roach; Mr. Bray, roach; Mr. Leacock, roach; Mr. Seel, roach; Mr. Sale, roach; Mr. Thorling, dace and roach, all from the Thames. On Wednesday next, the 11th of March, this society will take a complimentary return visit, when we shall feel glad to see some of our old friends to give a new host a house-warming.—F. T.

STOKE NEWINGTON ANGLING SOCIETY.

On the 2nd inst. Mr. C. F. Robinson weighed in 2 lb. 7½ oz. perch; Mr. C. Martin, dace; and Mr. G. Whitmore, perch. The 9th inst. being the last day of competition with us, we hope to have a good show of fish on that occasion, as there are two or three gross-weight prizes still undecided.—THOMAS GRETTON.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ANGLING SOCIETY.

A few members went down to Haywood and fished the society's new water on Saturday, the 1st inst., Messrs. E. Cocker, Lea, Sweetman, and Wallace getting amongst the pike, Mr. Lea taking the largest fish, weighing 6½ lb. Several members also tried the water for chub and roach, but were unsuccessful, these fish not being on at all. The river Trent, at the time of writing (Tuesday), is in full flood, and angling prospects are anything but cheering for the next few days.—J. HOLLINS, hon. sec.

THE GRANGE ANGLING SOCIETY.

On Tuesday, the 4th inst., the members of this society held a match at Egham for four prizes, viz., 1st, a handsome silver-plated cup, presented by Mr. Hosken; 2nd, a prize to the value of 15s., presented by Mr. Varney; 3rd, a carving knife and fork, presented by Mr. Hunt; and 4th, a pair of glass goblets, presented by Mr. Cowell. The prizes were for the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th heaviest weight of all fish, except jack, caught angling from the banks of the Thames. The weather being exceedingly rough all day, only three dace were taken, which Mr. J. H. Rich succeeded in catching; the cup therefore fell to that gentleman. The remaining prizes, with a handsome silver-plated cup, presented by Mr. R. Johnson, will be competed for before the close of the season. Mr. Johnson's present is to be called the "Chicard" prize cup, and is in commemoration of the victory of "Chicard" at Croydon on the 4th March, 1884, congratulating Mr. Gregory on his success.—W. K.

UNITED LONDON FISHERIES SOCIETY.

The monthly meeting of the Executive Committee will take place on Monday evening, March 10th, at nine o'clock, J. C. Murray chairman. The new improved hatching boxes, by J. C. Murray (one of which he has generously presented to the society) will be in operation in a few days, at Mr. M. F. Longmate's, the Red Lion, Stanstead, St. Margaret's, two minutes' walk from the Great Eastern Railway Station.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

WALWORTH WALTONIANS.

At the meeting held on the 6th, all members present signed a petition to Parliament on behalf of Mr. Storey Maskelyne's motion in the House of Commons, for the appointment of a select committee to inquire into the Acts of Parliament relating to the River Thames, with a view to its preservation for purposes of recreation. The competition with the South London will take place at Goring. Messrs. Bailey, Mawbey, Piolane, Griffin, Irons, Hawkrigge, and one or two more gentlemen will compete in this. An omnibus will start from Bright's Coffee House, near Camberwell Gate. All competitors and friends will meet at this place by 7.30 on the 9th inst. Messrs. Bailey and Buckman will start on Saturday to make arrangements. The last competition of the season will take place on the 14th at St. Margaret's, from the Lock to the "Gate." Mr. Fox will make all arrangements on this occasion. An extraordinary meeting was called for this evening, in consequence of some of the members refusing to pass the minutes of the last general meeting, referring to the proposition made by a "well-known member" on that occasion. Mr. Mawbey in the chair. Mr. Boalch having read over the proposition and several other articles referring to it, Messrs. Mawbey, H. Dale, Griffin, and Weatherhead, addressed the meeting in a very able manner. Mr. Gilbert proposed that the proposition referred to be rescinded. This was seconded by Mr. Weatherhead, and carried by 11 against 5, several members refraining from voting either way. It was now proposed that Messrs. Bailey, Bedford, and Fox, represent this society to ascertain the views of the other society. Votes of thanks to the chairman and secretary brought the meeting to a close.—PIXIE.

WENSLEYDALE ANGLING ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Wensleydale Angling Association was held at Mr. Mason's, the King's Arms Hotel, Askrigg, on Thursday evening last. John W. Lodge, Esq., of the Rookery, Bishopdale, in the chair, when the hon. sec., W. E. M. Winn, Esq., read the accounts for the past year. Receipts, £40 10s. 8d., and expenditure, £24 5s. 0d., which shows a very creditable state of affairs for a young association of three years' standing. A large increase in the number of fish was also reported, and good hopes are entertained of a good season.

WOOLWICH INVICTA ANGLING SOCIETY.

The following members weighed in on the 2nd inst. from the Thames:—Mr. Pycroft, 7 lb. 9 oz. of roach and dace; Mr. Foster, 4 lb. 12 oz. of roach and dace; Mr. Latham, 2 lb. of perch and dace; Mr. Knight, 1 lb. 2 oz. of perch and dace. The largest roach weighed 1½ lb., and was taken by Mr. Foster.—J. PERRY, sec.

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All Standard Flies ordered, or dressed correct to pattern, will be despatched by return of
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EXCHANGE.

Things Wanted—to BUY, to SELL, or to EXCHANGE.

N.B.—We take no responsibility whatever in connection with advertisements inserted
in this or other parts of this paper; but beg our readers to expose any case of im-
position. The prices for inserting advertisements in this "EXCHANGE"
Column are 6d. per line for one, or 4d. per line for more than one insertion.
Address Manager, FISHING GAZETTE, 12 and 13, Fetter Lane, London, and send
stamps with the order, or the advertisement cannot be inserted.

WANTED.—Particulars and prices of Secondhand Books on Angling and Fish Culture.
Must be in good condition—Address Editor, FISHING GAZETTE, 12 and 13, Fetter Lane,
London, E.C.

WANTED.—A large quantity of Starling wings at once, clean and cheap; also land-
rail, blackbird, and other wings.—Apply G. Holland, 4, Cooke Street, Failsforth, near
Manchester.

Trout flies, Blue Duns, March Browns, Woodcocks, &c., &c. Sample dozen, 13 stamps,
two dozen, 1s. 9d. Pickersgill, 26, Bingley Street, Leeds.

Fly Rod—Excellent double handed 14ft. Greenheart, by Carter & Sons. Cost owner
25s.; used only few hours; 17s. 6d.—G. H. O., 55, Caledonian Road, N.

DEFENCE OF ANGLING RIGHTS ON THAMES.

AT the moment of going to press we learn from Mr. T. Crumplen that
a Petition to the House of Commons in favour of Mr. Storey Maske-
lyne's motion for a Select Committee to inquire as to Thames en-
croachments lies for signature at Mr. C. Hatfield's, the Star and
Garter, St. Martin's Lane, W.C. Mr. C. adds, "I am sorry to be
late in sending an intimation, but there has really been no time lost,
and there is none to spare in signing, as the matter comes before the
House on Tuesday next."

PROPOSED ANGLING CLUB FOR BECCLES.

It has been proposed by the committee of the Waveney and Oulton Fisheries
Protection Society to form an Angling Association for Beccles and the sur-
rounding district. A preliminary meeting for this purpose will be held at the
Council Chamber, Beccles, on Monday, March 10th, at 4 30 p.m. It is hoped
that this movement will be the means of creating an interest in angling, and
thus indirectly of bringing in funds to the society, which is in great need of
assistance to carry out the work of preservation.

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RIVER REPORTS.

TIME OF HIGH WATER IN THE THAMES.

To find the time of high water in the Thames at any of the following places
to the time of high water at London Bridge (given below).

	30 minutes for Chelsea.
40 "	Putney.
45 "	Hammersmith.
50 "	Barnes.
55 "	Kew.
75 "	Richmond.
80 "	Twickenham.
85 "	Teddington.

Example:—If it is high water at 2 o'clock at London Bridge, it will be high
water at Teddington about 3.25, or eighty-five minutes later; but it must be
remembered that a strong wind accelerates or retards the tide very much.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.

		Morning.	Afternoon.
For Saturday, March 8 ..	11.18 ..	11.57	
Sunday, " 9 ..	12.0 ..	12.29	
Monday, " 10 ..	12.56 ..	1.19	
Tuesday, " 11 ..	1.42 ..	2.2	
Wednesday, " 12 ..	2.21 ..	2.39	
Thursday, " 13 ..	2.56 ..	3.12	
Friday, " 14 ..	3.27 ..	3.44	

NOTE.—The fence months for all coarse fish commence March 15 and end
June 15. This applies to all England and Wales, except Norfolk and Suffolk.

THE LOWER THAMES.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The dace have been heading up in large quantities, and remarkably fine fish.
The report from Hampton Court is they have come up there in shoals. All
looks well for another season. Anglers need reminding of the close of the
angling season on Friday next. The jack are being caught up to 19 lb., and
bream and chub are in good force.

Richmond.

Christopher Brown, in one day, seven dozen of roach and dace; Henry
Wheeler, in two days, 15 lb.; Job Brain, during the week, 35 lb.; Henry
Mansell, in one day, eight dozen; and Henry Howard, eight dozen of dace.
The bank anglers have registered as follows:—At the Jolly Anglers: Mr. Elkin,
4½ lb.; Mr. Blake, four and half dozen; Mr. Jenser, three dozen; Mr. Hall,
two and half dozen; Mr. Marsham, two and half dozen; Mr. Skelton, two
dozen; Mr. Gibbons, two dozen; Mr. Colman, 4½ lb.; Mr. Coombes, 6½ lb.
good roach, up to 1 lb. each. At the Waterman's Arms: Mr. C. Smart,
3½ lb. of dace; Mr. Conroy, one and half dozen; and Mr. Luff, one and half
dozen.

Twickenham.

John Spong, in one day, with Messrs. A. White and Godfrey, thirteen dozen
of roach and dace, weighing 27 lb., and another day six dozen; John Coxen,
in one day, five and half dozen of dace; Richard Coxen, eight dozen; G.
Coxen, in two days, fourteen dozen; and Mr. Beard, with George Chamber-
lain, during the week, two hundred of dace.

Teddington.

Benjamin Stevens, in one day, eleven dozen of fine roach and dace; and
Joseph Baldwin, eight dozen of good dace. The water is in good condition
for all-round fishing.

Kingston.

John Johnson, sen., in one day, seventeen and a half dozen of very fine dace;
and John Johnson, jun., in the same time, thirteen perch, two chub of 2½ lb.
each, and three small jack, the latter being returned to the river again. The
bank anglers here and at Surbiton have been getting a nice sprinkling of roach,
dace, and perch.

East Moulsey.

John Smith, a jack of 5 lb.; Charles Davis, in one day, nine dozen of good
dace; Thomas Davis, jun., one dozen of large roach, and three dozen of fine
dace; William Milbourne, during the week, twenty-five dozen of dace.
W. Milbourne reports, "The dace have come up to Hampton Court in shoals,
and very fine ones." The bank anglers have been doing well amongst the
roach and dace.

Sunbury.

Messrs. Edward Clarke and Sons, in one day, in one of their punts got two
dozen of roach and dace, three perch, and two jack, the largest 6 lb. The bank

anglers have done well with roach, dace, and perch. The water is reported to be of a very good colour for fishing, and the river somewhat low.

Walton.

The principal item of the week is the capture of a fine pike weighing 19 lb., by Mr. Alexander, fishing with George Hone. We should like to find Mr. Alexander's name in the "Blue Book" of the T.A.P.S. The bank anglers have had some fair sport.

Weybridge.

Mr. Beatley, fishing with Herbert Curr, in one day, got a brace of chub weighing 8 lb., and a couple of barbel weighing 5 lb.

Shepperton.

James Haslett, whose quarters are just above the lock, has been out three days: on the first day, with Mr. Thomas Spreckley, the President of the T.A.P.S., who caught a couple of bream weighing 6 lb.; another day, with Mr. J. L. Meyers, two bream, weighing 5 lb., and two chub $4\frac{1}{2}$ lb.; and another day, one brace of perch, and some fine roach and dace legering.

Staines.

Charles Hone, in one day, four chub.

UPPER THAMES.

The late rains have once more placed fishermen out of court, as the river is bank high and of an unfishable tint. I have several decent reports from Cookham, Marlow, Hurley, and Henley, but must defer them as a bouquet for my final report of the season next week.

Thursday.—River falling and toning down nicely with the present weather. Wind, south-west. Every chance of roach, perch, and jack being had during the forthcoming week.—MARLOW BUZZ.

Wraysbury.

Water rather high, but in splendid order for fishing. Several nice roach were taken from the "Old Fleet" on the 2nd inst; tail of a lob being the attraction.

Goring.

Water now very thick and high—a little flood; but by the end of this week, if it keeps fine, will do for roach fishing. Best day, two jack and a few good roach.—JOHN RUSH.

Docket Point.

My report last week missed the post. Mr. J. L. Meyers, one perch and some fine roach; Mr. Smith, two bream and roach, legering; J. Haslett, jun., Mr. Jenkins, one bream, one perch, 1 lb., and roach up to 1 lb each. Feb. 28th, Mr. T. Spreckley, two bream, 6 lb. March 1st, Mr. J. L. Meyers, two bream, 5 lb., two chub, $4\frac{1}{2}$ lb. March 2nd, roach and dace, two perch. Owing to the sharp frosts the bream were off; but now the weather has changed, I hope to send a good report of bream and roach next week.—JAMES HASLETT.

Ancholme District.

I was from home at the usual time for sending my report last week, hence its nonappearance. We have had quite a change in the character of the weather. There has been a considerable downfall of both rain and snow, but the latter has melted as it fell. The temperature is much lower, and the waters are considerably discoloured. There will not be much more fishing in the Ancholme before the commencement of the close time. The Riverhead Fishery will, however, remain open, and doubtless owing to the closing of several local waters will be better patronised. Some Grimsby gentlemen had very good sport last week thereat. Mr. Scott, of the Skipworth Arms, Moortown, can find accommodation for visitors who wish to stay all night. Saturday last was looked upon as the opening day in this district for trout fishing. I sent a present that day of 7,500 of the finest fario fry I ever saw to one of the local becks, and told my son, who took them, that he might fish an hour or two in return for the donation. He did so, and caught one fine trout and one fontinalis. As the beck is not very far from home, I could not well rest content without going over to see how he was getting on. On arrival I took the rod and caught five more nice fish, averaging quite $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. each, but they were not quite up to the expected condition, so I shall fish sparingly until they have feasted on the early browns and brown drakes, which are just beginning to appear.—THOMAS FORD, Caistor.

Avon (Binton, Bidford, &c.)

The river was in a condition last week that left nothing to be desired, and as I anticipated in my last, I heard accounts, and also saw results, of some very capital sport. Having myself been prevented throughout the winter from taking advantage of the splendid angling weather we have had, I enjoyed the next highest gratification an angler can have—viz., that of congratulating a more favoured brother on his success, and this I certainly indulged in to the fullest extent when one of our club members brought, for my inspection, three out of four fine fish he took live-baiting in the Bidford portion of the river, the three weighing about nineteen pounds. I have heard also of several other good fish (up to ten pounds, in fact) having been secured in the Larne water since, by trrollers, using the favourite bait here—the dead gorge. From the locality where these were taken, and the condition they were in, I am inclined to think the pike are collecting with a view to depositing their ova. Some members who visited the club water at Binton failed to get a "touch," and, in fact, the whole of the river from Binton through Stratford, and for some distance beyond, has, during this year, produced to anglers little more than a plentiful haul of disappointment.—Cause unknown.—J. E. B.

Blackwater (Mallow, Co. Cork).

River still very high since my last report. It was only fishable for a few hours. Mr. T. S. Pearson, of London, landed a splendid 27 lb. with a spoon the size of a soup ladle; Captain Pearson, 15th Regt., the same day, one 19 lb. Both fish were killed on Mr. Coates' water, Kilbarry. Mr. Hobson, one, 12 lb., and Col. Roche, two. If we have no more rain the rivers will be in splendid order next week.—J. O. HAROLD.

Coln (Wraysbury).

Water thick, falling down rapidly. If this beautiful weather lasts, we ought to have some grand takes on the 8th and 9th inst. Two very nice pike came to grass on Tuesday, the 26th ult., besides a few good roach out of Gurney's water. Mr. Gurney has shut this water against the natives, which

causes them to feel rather bitter, and they tell anglers the river is netted. Mr. G. assures me it has not been netted for twenty years past, and he will feel much obliged, if any gentleman is informed to the contrary, with name of informant.—ROACH.

Dee and Don (Aberdeenshire).

During the past week net and rod-fishing both declined very much on these rivers. The frosts at night and the very fine nature of the opening days of the week contributed in a great measure to bring about this result. While, toward the end of the week the netting improved, it was by no means so good as it might have been, in consequence, doubtless, of the wind having a good hold of the east. With bare frosts at night and very varying states of atmosphere, angling, as can be imagined, was rather poor. The water was in fine size, but everything else was very unpropitious. Toward middle of the week it was evident that a storm presaged, and on Friday and Saturday it was realised with pretty sharp severity. Along the coast the netting improved a good deal, though still not so much so as to be called a success. A feature of the sea netting was the capture of a number of heavy fish—a very unusual occurrence at this season—between the mouth of the Dee and the Cove, four miles down the coast. The fish captured last week were on an average much heavier than those of any catches at this particular season during the past twenty years. With regard to Don angling, we have always been expecting to hear from Mr. Brown that some good takes had been got on his hotel waters at Alford, but no news to encourage anglers to go there has yet reached us. We have not received a single report from the Don yet. Can it be that our correspondents have fallen asleep? We do hope that some reports will reach us before another week runs its course. As the trouting season will soon be on, we will find it necessary to place some information before your readers in regard to what can be done in this river. We therefore seek the co-operation of our correspondents and all readers of the GAZETTE. The following reports are to hand for last week:—Park District.—Middle Durris Water.—Colonel Percy, Friday, 1 fish, 10 lb. Drum Water.—Monday, A. Muirhead Aitken, Esq., London, 1 fish, $13\frac{1}{2}$ lb. On the Lower Crathes Water.—A. Grimble, Esq., landed on Wednesday, 2 fish, 10 and 11 lb. On Inverly.—Brands, keeper, Friday, 1 fish, 8 lb. Kineskie.—Captain Malcolmson, Wednesday, 2 fish, 8 and $8\frac{1}{2}$ lb. On Inchmarlo.—T. Barbour, Esq., Nottingham, Monday, 2 fish, 9 and 11 lb.; Saturday, 1 fish, 10 lb. Sluie.—Friday, C. Gill, 2 fish, 9 and 11 lb. Blackhall.—Mr. Frank Farquharson, Monday, 1 fish, 9 lb.; Thursday, 1 fish, 7 lb.; Friday, 1 fish, 15 lb. Cairnton Section.—L. Farley, Esq., Monday, 1 fish, 10 lb.; Thursday, 2 fish, 8 and 10 lb.; Saturday, 1 fish, 10 lb. Woodend Fishery.—Major J. P. Traherne landed 2 salmon, 7 and 10 lb., during the week. Aboyne Hotel Water.—J. Wason, Esq., Thursday, 1 fish, 8 lb.; Friday, 2 fish, $8\frac{1}{2}$ and $13\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Colonel Egerton, Friday, 1 fish, 16 lb. Sir Herbert Lewis, Wednesday, 2 fish, 8 and 10 lb. Ballater District.—Mr. Smith's report.—Invercauld Arms Hotel Water, J. Muller, Wednesday, 2 fish, 6 and 8 lb.; Thursday, 2 fish, 8 and 10 lb.; Friday, 2 fish, 8 and 10 lb. On Pammanich Section.—A. Grant, keeper to J. T. Mackenzie, Esq., of Kintail and Glenmuick, landed on Tuesday 1 fish, 10 lbs. On F. Pickop, Esq.'s Monaltre Water.—Robert Stewart, Esq., on Friday, landed 1 fish, 8 lb. Tom Kinaird, on Tuesday, 2 fish, 10 and 17 lb.; Friday, 1 fish, 7 lb. James Harper, Tuesday, 1 fish, 9 lb.; Tuesday, 2 fish, 9 and 10 lb. Robert Clarke, Saturday, 1 fish, 9 lb. Stormy weather, sport not good. Kincardine O'Neil District.—Report of Messrs Blacklaws and Son, rod and fishing tackle makers. Desswood Section.—Patrick Davidson, Esq., Tuesday, 1 fish, $10\frac{1}{2}$ lb.; J. Harper, 1 fish, $12\frac{1}{2}$ lb. On Friday. Ballagie Section.—The Honourable William Arbutnot, Monday, 1 fish, 10 lb.; Tuesday, 7 and $8\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Norton House Water.—Nicol, keeper, 1 fish, $6\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Borrowstone Water.—Walter D. Leslie, Esq., of Drumrossie, Monday, 1 fish, $8\frac{1}{2}$ lb.; Major C. Leith-Hay, Saturday, 2 fish, 7 and $8\frac{1}{2}$ lb. John Harper, Monday, 1 fish, $9\frac{1}{2}$ lb.; Tuesday, 1 fish, 9 lb.; Wednesday, 1 fish, $10\frac{1}{2}$ lb.; Friday, 2, $6\frac{1}{2}$ and 12 lb.; Saturday, 2 fish, 12 and 13 lb. Carlogie.—J. Scott, Tuesday, 1 fish, 21 lb., the largest so far, and a perfect beauty; Thursday, 4 fish, 9, $9\frac{1}{2}$, $10\frac{1}{2}$, and $11\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Inchmarlo Water.—On Monday of this week, T. Barbour, Esq., landed 3 fish, 9, 11, and 13 lb. Since writing the foregoing report we have learned from a correspondent that "on Grandholm, Parkhill, and other reaches of the Don, higher up, a few clean fish have been caught with the rod, and but for the prevalence of easterly winds a better return would no doubt have been had, as fish are more plentiful up stream than formerly. Fungoid salmon have nearly all disappeared. Best months for the Don: March, April, and May—August, September, and October."—W. M.

Dove.

The weather to-day (Thursday) has been all that the most exacting could desire, the sun shining out with all the power and brilliancy of mid-April. In the early part of the week matters were not so roseate. We had heavy snow and rain, and on Tuesday, owing to a thaw which followed, the river was running bankful and there was an immense quantity of snow-broth in the water. This proved inimical to angling, and very little, if anything, was done. Previous to the storm the red fly and blue duns were showing out in force on the river, and I dare say, with the elements as they are to day, they will shortly make their presence known again. A good many trout yet remain in the tributary brooks, not having yet repassed the main stream after spawning, and in the high water which prevailed at the beginning of the week the catch net fraternity were very busy, some of them making, I regret to state, large catches. While these gentlemen are permitted to continue their depredations, there is all the less chance for anglers—more's the pity.—THE SPODGER.

Eden (Carlisle).

On February 27th, Mr. R. H. Horrocks killed 3 spring fish in the Dean and Chapter's water, and Sir Henry Clavering, one. On the 28th, Sir Henry had another, and the Corby Castle keeper, one. 29th, Mr. Wm. Routledge got two beauties, 22 lb., and 17 lb., at Armthwaite. March 3rd, the Corby Castle keeper killed one, and next day in the same water Captain Rhodes landed two, 21 lb., and 17 lb., and Mr. Horrocks again got three in the Dean and Chapter's water. Unfortunately the disease seems to be making progress. In the higher reaches of the river it is not so bad, but for about five miles above Carlisle the great bulk of the spring fish seem to be affected. We had a thorough wet day on Tuesday which put the river in high flood yesterday, and salmon-fishers are knocked off for a few days. It was, however, very welcome to the netters, as the fish had ceased running owing to the low water and east wind. It will also clear off a good deal of the snow, and bring on trout fishing. To-day (Thursday) is a real spring day, with a west wind, and anglers are beginning to rig up their trout casts. Trout fishing should be unusually early this year. Indeed, more than a week ago, Archdeacon Prescott killed 9 lb. with the fly. A friend of mine, just returned from a week's fishing in Loch Tay, gives me a woful account of the sport there. He and his mate sat in their boat (I can hardly say they fished) wrapped up in any number of ulsters and rugs, though

well starved all the time, for a whole week, and had not a single run. Twelve rods killed 6 fish in the week! He says this was his first and will be his last visit to Loch Tay.—SILVER GRAY.

Exe and Barle (Dulverton).

Probably, owing to the mild winter, trout are now in good condition, and have of late risen well to the blue upright, silver twist, heron's blue, gold twist, and February red. The water is now in good fishing order, and has been generally during the past fortnight. Good sport may be looked for on almost any fine day.—C. W. NELDER.

Exe (Tiverton).

The river has been in flood all the week, and is clearing off to-day (Thursday), but too high for fishing. If no more rain, it will be in good order in a day or two, when some good baskets are looked forward to.—WM. MUDFORD.

Great Ouse (Kempston).

Mr. Thomas Ford, of the Manor Fishery, Caistor, has, this week, sent a nice gift of very fine Fario fry to Mr. Horn's water, at Kempston Mills. Mr. Ford has not much faith in stocking the Ouse with trout, but this is the most likely spot that he knows.—P. P.

Greta (Ingleton).

The annual meeting of the Ingleton Angling Association was held last week. After the accounts were passed it was found that the very satisfactory balance of over £20 was to be handed over for the present season. Owing to the death of the late secretary a new one was elected, in the person of Mr. George Davidson. Although the season has opened for anglers, I have not heard of anything worthy to record. On Monday we had a fearful snowstorm, and on Tuesday it rained incessantly the whole day; consequently, there will be no fishing done, as there is too much "snow-broth." The surrounding hills are still covered with snow. The fishing of the association has been considerably diminished this season, as several portions have been rented by private individuals.—INGLEBORO.

Lakes of Killarney.

Since the last report we have had very bad, wet, and cold weather, and constant floods to keep up the lakes and make them unfit for fishing; however, we hope it will be good to bring up the "springers," and leave the anglers to live in hopes. The following are the numbers of salmon taken since the last report Feb. 26th:—Mr. J. D. Curtaigne, one salmon, on Flesk, 12 lb.; Mr. John C. Coltsmann, one, 10 lb., on Flesk; 28th, Daniel O'Donoghue, one, on Flesk, 23 lb., the largest taken by rod for this year; John Downing, one salmon, 11 lb., on the middle lake, with spoon bait; Jerry Robert, one ditto, 10 lb., on the middle lake; Mr. J. D. Curtaigne, on Flesk, one salmon, 10 lb.; next day, two salmon, one 14 lb., one 12½ lb.,—the two he killed with the Kate Kearney; Daniel O'Donoghue, one salmon, 15 lb., on Flesk; same day, Michael Kelliher, one 12 lb., on Flesk; Mr. John C. Coltsmann, one 12 lb., on Flesk; March 2nd, Tim. McCarthy, one salmon, on Flesk, 10 lb., with the Kate Kearney; Pat Clifford, one salmon, 11½ lb., on the upper lake, with spoon bait; 4th, John Downing, one salmon, 10 lb. on the lower lake, the first for this season. Muckross nets, 26 salmon; Glens nets, 20 salmon; upper lake 23 salmon.—TIM MCCARTHY, fisherman.

Lea (Waltham Abbey).

The chub are well on the feed, and some very good ones taken. Mr. Aldridge, 1, taken with live bait. The last day of jack fishing, 4 lb. 12 oz. There were two nice fish taken on the 2nd inst., and one on Wednesday, in the Abbey stream, 3 lb. 14 oz.; the water now in first-class order. A few very nice roach taken to-day (Thursday) in the garden.—PENCIL.

Lee (Co. Cork).

The weather has been again unfavourable, and the water has been rendered so changeable with frequent rain, that angling has been carried on only in spells. Still, there is a good record for the very few days on which the river was in fishing order. Mr. George Hughes landed three springers in one day, and the brothers Manning, on the 2nd inst., captured six, of which three were springers. Sir Augustus Warren and party have taken 38 spring salmon since the 1st Feb. On Monday General Bowles took three, and Mr. Bass three. A fisherman named Scanwell took two on the 2nd inst., and on the following day Mr. Beamish took two. Many nice salmon were taken in the short intervals when angling was available.

We had a high flood on Monday, but the Lee was in fishing order on the following day, and some capital sport was had. One of the gentlemen fishing on Clashesure, landed two handsome springers, and Mr. Geo. Haynes on the adjoining fishery brought a good fish to the bank. Mr. Barber, on the opposite side, landed four during the week. Captain Vansittart and a Scotch gentleman, who have taken Fergus, the fishing of Sir Oriel Forster, for the year, made a good bag on Saturday, having placed four to their credit on the first day of their operations. Since then they have been very successful, taking two and three a day, but there are three rods engaged.—ANGLER.

Loch Tay (Scotland).

This water is now in good fishing condition, and the weather is becoming very genial, though not altogether settled yet. Among the takes since last report are:—Lochay Hotel Water.—Friday: Mr. Barns, Wimbush, New Barnet, one salmon, 18 lb.; Mr. Tomson, Stirling, one, 16 lb. On Wednesday (last week) the Kenmore Hotel Water gave Mr. Gordon, Mainwaring, one of 18 lb., and on the following day another of 21 lb.; Mr. Addison, Fitley, Mansfield, Notts, got one of 17 lb. On Thursday, on the Killin Water, Mr. Blake, Blairgowrie, caught one of 22 lb., and the same day, on the Reserved Water, Mr. Farquharson, of Uddingstone, had one of 25 lb. On Saturday, on the Ardeonaig Water, Mr. Dudgeon, London, got one of 21 lb. On Monday, Mr. Cooper, of Edinburgh, took two salmon, 17 lb. and 19 lb., from the Killin Water, and on Tuesday he took another of 20 lb., while Mr. Wilson, Moffat, had one of 25 lb. Fishing on Wednesday, Mr. Wilson got two beauties, 15 lb. and 19 lb., and Mr. Frew, Glasgow, one, 26 lb.

Lugg and Arrow.

Both these streams are now out of fishing order for the next few days. The water since Tuesday has risen and coloured very much, and fly-fishing will not be resumed before next week. On Friday some very nice trout were taken in the Arrow with the Blue Dun, and a few small fish were taken in the Lugg with the same fly. A few good fish were taken near the station on Saturday with the February Red, some scaling over ½ lb. each. The Pinsley is high and muddy, and there has no fishing been had in it this week.—GWYNNE.

Medway (Tonbridge).

Water very thick, though some few pike were taken at the end of last and beginning of this week. There is no prospect of angling for a few days, and not even then if we have more rain.—YE MEDWAY WATER RAT.

Moy, Ballina, and Lough Conn.

River and lake still very high and not in good order for fishing. The last few days have been very fine, and the water fell fully two feet. Another week of fine weather river and lake will be in good angling trim. A good number of spring fish are rising, but none has been taken with the fly up to the present. A few slats were all that fell to the lot of the anglers who tried their hand on the shallows.

Ouse and Ivel (Blunham).

Fishing has been good this week; both rivers are in excellent condition.—S. E.

River Tay (Scotland).

The river is now getting into good ply. On the Dereulich water on Friday the keeper got a salmon of 20 lb. On Birnam Hotel water on Friday Mr. Butler had one of 15 lb., and on Saturday Mr. Pople, of the hotel, had two, 20 lb. and 25 lb. On Monday, Mr. Grant got one of 13 lb. The Dalguise water and the Grantully water, Stobball, and other stretches are all fishing well, and the tributaries are yielding satisfactory trout and salmon fishing on the Garry and Loch Oich. 130 salmon have been killed by three rods since 11th February by Messrs. Crosfield, Wilson, and another.

Severn (Shrewsbury).

The weather has been very unsettled during this week. At the same time the river on Saturday last and the early part of this week seems to have been in fair condition for the salmon netters of the lower part of the Vernieu, James Evons, of Melverley, the fisherman whom I mentioned last week as having had some good catches, has again sent two fine fish to Messrs. Hammonds, of Raven Street, Shrewsbury, weighing 23½ lb. and 16½ lb. respectively. Mr. Wild, of Melverley, has also been successful this week. Mr. John Convey, Shrewsbury, has received six very fine fish, all taken near Melverley, their respective weights being as follows:—23½ lb., 21 lb., 20 lb., 19½ lb., 17½ lb., 16½ lb.; the fish were all in fine condition. I heard of some nice trout being taken some distance below Shrewsbury, which were sold at eighteen pence a pound. Mr. John Ellis, who is well-known as an expert salmon angler at Newtown, has again taken several very fine fish with the rod. A nice pike was taken by Uffington on Saturday last, and I saw a fine basket of perch which had been taken with the worm and minnow. Rain fell very heavily all day yesterday, and the river has risen very much to-day in several parts. The towing path is under water a foot or eighteen inches.—SEVERN SALMON.

Teme (Ludlow).

Anglers have been sorely disappointed this week at the sudden change of weather with which this district was visited on Monday and Tuesday. A large quantity of snow and rain must have fallen higher up the country, seeing how swollen the Teme and all its tributaries are. The former is from 2 to 3 feet above its ordinary level, and has overflowed its banks up the Oakley Park meadows. The Corve is out, and a number of acres under water, and fishing has to be abandoned for a few days at least. Some few fish were caught on Friday and Saturday, but the fish will hardly take the worm, and those few caught were with the fly. All the tributaries are full at present. Referring to my allusion of Mr. T. Hodges, of Rewen Lane, artificial fly maker, I have just discovered that he resides in the self-same house occupied many years ago by the celebrated Charles Bowker, the writer of the well-known "Art of Angling," a book which lies now before me, and, strange to say, purchased by me nearly thirty years ago, in Lower Town, Quebec, Canada, before I ever heard the name of the Teme. The author, Charles Bowker, I am informed by one who knew him well, was by trade a glover, a business which once flourished to a great extent in Ludlow. In fishing and fly making he was an expert, but making a fly called the "Marlow Buzz," a description of which is in page 126 of his work, he came in for such a quantity of chaffing from his companions, that he eventually left the town.—S. LUDLOW.

Teme (Tenbury).

Owing to the heavy downpour of rain on Monday and Tuesday, the water of this part has risen considerably, and is very muddy. The fishing has been entirely put a stop to for a few days, the water being even too wild for bottom-fishing. Some few good trout were taken on Saturday, but nothing since. The Kyre and Rea are both high and muddy, and no fishing going on. Little doing in the Ledwyche; water high and coloured.—WORCESTER.

Trent (Newark).

I have nothing particular to communicate this week. During the latter part of last week the water was in prime order, and several anglers were out; but, as far as I can learn, nothing was done worth reporting, with the exception of a few nice chub, taken with pith and brains, and a few dace, with the red-worm; but the latter fish, or at least one or two of them that came under my own observation, were getting very advanced; in fact I may say nearly ripe. On Monday, Monday night, and Tuesday it rained very heavily nearly the whole time without intermission; and, at the time of writing, the river is bank full, and every prospect of a heavy flood. Even now, scores of acres of the low lying meadows are submerged, so the prospects for the wind-up are not very brilliant.—THE TRENT OTTER.

Trent (Nottingham).

The close season is rapidly approaching, and with a favourable change in the weather and waters, anglers until the 15th are certain to muster in strong force. For some time past, members of the various angling clubs have displayed a certain amount of apathy in the weighing in of fish, and if they are relying on their chances of getting a good 'un in the few remaining days of the winter term, they may at the finish find themselves without one. On Monday and Wednesday the elements were about as disagreeable as they well could be. Rain fell almost without cessation, and on Wednesday the river was in a state of flood. Thursday was a genial day, but the water was too thickly charged in colour to permit of even decent angling. It is with satisfaction I notice that last year in the Trent, the salmon nets took nearly 800 fish, averaging 12 lb. a piece, and that the rodsters caught no fewer than 250. The licenses issued for salmon had returned to the coffers of the Trent Fishery Board £109 10s., and whilst those for trout produced £192 2s. Weather permitting, the river will be in condition for coarse fishing to-day (Saturday).—THE MAN AT THE CLUBS.

Waveney (Beccles).

The little rain that fell the early part of this week has, if anything, improved

the appearance of the water, for it could not possibly be in a better condition than at present time. Anglers are now bestirring themselves and several have been out and have been rewarded with good baskets. Roach, perch, and pike have been well on the feed. Capt. James of Geldeston, in four days fishing for pike between Dumburgh and the Lochs, succeeded in landing 22 fish, weighing from 3 to 4 lbs. Mark Mills has also had several fish, one turning scale at 6½ lbs. Mr. Alfred Darby, of yacht *Fyona*, on Friday last some good pike. Mr. A. Algar, one of 4 lbs., and 27 roach weighing one stone. This was a splendid catch, some of them scaling 1 lb. and upwards. Mr. W. Oldham, on Friday, had a good basket of roach, several nice fish amongst them. It is worthy of note that from Chris mas to present time, the number of pike caught which have come to my knowledge nearly approach 100, letting alone those that I have not heard anything of. Wind in south-west; prospects for next week are A1.—A WAVENEY ANGLER.

Wharfe (Yorkshire).

The old adage, "February fill dyke," most certainly did not apply to that month in the present year; but March, apparently, is going to make up for the deficiency, as we have had two or three days of very stormy weather this week, and at the time of writing (Wednesday night) the river is very high. Nothing has been done in the way of trout fishing so far, but I hope before long to be able to chronicle some good takes both on the Otley Club water and elsewhere. Possibly towards the end of this week anglers may meet with better success, as the weather appears more settled, and the atmosphere is considerably warmer. —FRANCIS M. WALBRAN.

Wye and Derwent.

On Monday last there was a very great quantity of snow fell all over Derbyshire, then again on Tuesday we had a thorough wet day, which caused both the Wye and Derwent to have flushes on them of about 3 feet high, which quite put a stop to angling till to-day (Thursday), when there has been a fair quantity of fishermen out on the Derwent trying their skill, with worms for bait; but I am sorry to say very poor sport has been had, owing to the "snow broth" being in the water. Fish scarcely ever feed well on the Derbyshire rivers while there is "snow-broth" in the water; either at top or bottom, the Derwent ought to be all right for the worm by Monday. There will be no fly-fishing on either river for the next week. Weather very mild —GEORGE JAMES EATON.

Yare (Norwich).

The past week, as far as I can ascertain, has not been a good one for the jack fisherman; this stream has been extremely low and very clear, which somewhat accounts for the failure of those who have tried their luck. I was out with a party of friends last Saturday at one of our most likely spots, yet all we succeeded in accomplishing was landing 3 small jack, 2 of which were promptly returned to their natural element with the hope that they may afford sport when they are further nourished. The water was so clear that we could see the jack lying about, and on several occasions cast our tempting lure in the midst of two or three who eyed it for a moment, and then sailed disdainfully away to a quiet retreat among the weeds (having, as I fully believe, been watching us and our efforts.) In private water some good sport has been again experienced, one party, on Tuesday last, landing, or rather getting into the boat, 13 handsome fish, several weighing 10 lb. to 12 lb. The deep waters are the most likely spots, while the water is so clear, although the fish are very forward, and are drawing up the dykes and shallows. A few days more and we hereabouts shall finish for this season.—ROBERT MOLL.

Yore (Hawes).

Several fair baskets were made yesterday (Tuesday). I hear of a fish of 1½ lb. being landed. I got six, about 1½ lb., and a neighbour ten, weighing about 1½ lb. the lot. We are covered with snow, consequently any freshet will be both pure and simple. The little white worm, well scoured, is the best bait at present. My GAZETTE miscarried last week, but the wrapper landed all right, so I do not know if anything more has been said on the salmon in trout streams question.—JOS. CORRY.

NOTICES OF FLIES, &c.

FLIES FOR THE TEME.

MR. T. B. HODGES, of 13, Raven Street, Ludlow, writes:—

"SIR,—I send you a sample of my flies, hoping you will like them. I was by the river Teme to-day (Tuesday, February 26), and was rather surprised to see the March brown on quite strong. While I was by the water I saw three trout, about ½ lb. each, killed with the 'claret body.' The fish came on about one o'clock. I inclose a few natural March browns."

This is certainly a very extraordinary spring; the newspapers are full of accounts of how this, that, and the other has put in an appearance long before it was due; and here we have the March brown, which is often more an April than a March fly, out weeks before its time. So much the better, for the trout will get into condition all the sooner. Some of these natural samples have the eggs attached still, and all are rather darker than Ronald's coloured imitation, in his delightful "Fly-fisher's Entomology." The samples of artificial flies which Mr. Hodges sends are nicely-tied old friends, such as blue and yellow duns, red tag, coch-y-bondhu, coachman, &c. We should feel every confidence in getting a dish of fish with a cast made up from them, only we should ask Mr. H. to put them on gossamer drawn gut, and on black and not steel-blue hooks. Of course, early in the season, with high water, fine gut is not so necessary as later on; but even then it will kill two to one as against coarse gut, and the best fish, too.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

We shall be extremely obliged to any of our readers who will send us by post, in strong cardboard boxes, specimens of any flies they may meet with at the river side. With the exception of an occasional stray blue-bottle, which settles itself in the sun outside our office window, we do not get many chances of seeing the natural insects in the neighbourhood of Fleet Street.

GUT CASTS AND GUT TRACES.

Mr. Bullmer, of 62, Wandsworth Road, London, is the maker of the Gossamer gut casting lines we have now used for many seasons in trout-fishing with the utmost satisfaction. It is the greatest pleasure to us, after recommending a thing, to find anglers writing to endorse our opinion of it. Many have done so in the case of these beautifully-fine lines, including Mr. H. S. Hall, one of the best trout anglers and amateur fly-dressers living. A few years ago it would have been quite impossible for the sum of 8d. to obtain three yards of most carefully-tied, delicate, spider-web-like gut, stained any colour desired, and we always consider Mr. Bullmer has conferred a boon upon fly-fishers by this speciality of his. It is true we have heard complaints about them, complaints which we consider the best compliments they could have—viz., that they are "too fine!" To meet the requirements of these critics, Mr. B. has brought out recently a "tapered Gossamer," which we can strongly recommend, as a tapered line, whether winch line or casting line, always stretches out over the water better—casts better, in fact. He also sells "fine" and "extra fine" lines. As these latter will easily kill a 2 lb. trout, and with a little delicate handling a much heavier fish, we rarely use anything else. If the angler using one of these collars strikes from the winch as we have so often recommended, there is no fear of breakage in the strike. This cannot be done with a check-winch unless the check is extremely light. Mr. Slater (of Newark's) combination winch, with silent check, which can be regulated to any "pull," answers admirably; and Mr. Reuben Heaton, of Birmingham, showed us the other day the pattern of a winch he has patented, which we like exceedingly, and shall describe shortly.

Mr. Bullmer sends us some samples of single and twisted gut traces, which we like very much indeed—just the things for Mr. Jardine's "patent nostrum," or for salmon-fishing. What we like about Mr. B.'s things is that they always show a very careful attention to details. Good gut is often spoiled by clumsy knots and whipping; but this is not the case with Mr. B.'s work. It is more than probable we shall get some remonstrances from certain tackle-makers because we have seen fit to speak of Mr. Bullmer's goods as we find them. We frequently gets hints after we have noticed a thing that it is "unfair" to "puff" so-and-so. Those who write in this way forget two things—first, that the interests of our readers are our chief concern; and secondly, that we are always perfectly ready to notice anything really good which they like to send. Let them compare anything we speak well of in price and quality with what they supply, and then send theirs to us, and if we find them as good nothing will prevent our saying so. We should have thought it unnecessary to make these remarks, but for the fact that our experience of some fishing-tackle makers has proved how extremely jealous they are. We say "some," because there are many who are not so short-sighted as to see no merit in anything but their own goods. Another thing we would venture to point out, and we name no names—that is, that anglers who go into a shop to buy goods confer a favour by doing so. Some tackle-makers seem to be under the delusion that to serve a customer is an act of condescension on their part, and that a "take-it-or-leave-it-and-go-to-the-devil" kind of manner is business! The anglers who stand this kind of thing are very poor creatures, in our opinion. Unfortunately, there are too many of them. We have seen anglers come into a shop and ask for something or other. "What's for you?" in a snappish-nose-off tone. The request is repeated; something at hap-hazard is banged down in front of the offender, who, after vainly trying to get what he wants, suggests there must be a mistake; then after some perfectly gratuitous—but none the less snappish—advice from a party, who probably never caught a fish in his life, the discomfited angler departs with something he never intended to buy, and may never use. But he also departs with something else, and that is disgust; and if he does not select a more courteous tackle-maker next time—well he deserves incivility. On the other hand, it is quite a pleasure to go into some shops. Anglers hate servility quite as much as they appreciate civility; and, fortunately, very many of our English, Scotch, and Irish fishing-tackle firms understand this so well as to make not only customers but friends. We naturally come into contact with a great number of anglers, and often think if "so-and-so" could hear how he is spoken of, how encouraged he would be; or if so-and-so could hear what is said of him, how much good it might do him!

POACHING ONE'S OWN WATER.

By "CREEL."

My friend Major Trap's water—a splendid length of a Hampshire stream—he had not had it long when he found it going from bad to worse; he therefore begged of me to pay a visit, if it was only for a week, to solve the cause of its decadence; as when he first came into possession of it he never was in difficulty of obtaining a dish of trout.

I agreed to accept his invitation upon one condition: that I should be permitted, instead of staying at the Hall, to take up my quarters at the Hotel.

I fished the water the first day, the Major's keeper attending me. My sport was meagre, and I told the keeper, Ned Hamps, now at rest, that from certain well known evidences plain to an observant person's experience, the net was a constant visitant of the waters.

This the keeper staunchly, if indignantly, denied, as he watched the river-night after night.

There was a well-known poacher living in a hamlet just out of the town, who went by the name of "Slippery Sam," and who affected to confine the operations of his rod to a stretch of common water open to all comers. I worked down to this part of the stream and shortly got into conversation with my slippery customer.

A very little affectation of ignorance of the neighbourhood impressed Sam with the desired notion that I was a stranger, and this done, I asked him, how it was I could not get any trout at the hotel for breakfast, or a basket to send away, and his reply was a cautious one.

"That 'ere new cove at the Hall is howdacious particular about his water, and the landlady of the hotel is tarnashion careful who she cooks 'em for." But how long was I going to stay?—for perhaps he could find me a dish or two, when I was quitting, to take away with me.

I thought of going the next afternoon by the coach which passes through the village. "I'll be there an hour before that," said the unsuspecting Sam.

And there he was in my private room with as fine a basket of trout as I could desire. I examined their mouths, and not a sign of a hook was visible in one of them.

A bottle of scotch whisky was on the table. I told the slippery one to help himself, and he was far from slow at that spirited amusement. Slippery Sam was getting rapidly in what Tom Hood used to call the humour of divulgement, and I asked him where he got the fish.

Slippery gave a grin and said, "Oh then, sir, as yer be a stranger and about to quit these 'ere parts, I don't mind telling yer, I got that 'ere lot last night in Major Trap's water." "Are you not afraid of being caught?" said I. "No—not a bit on it. The keeper's a friend of mine, and it's first-rate fun. 'Good fun!' I remarked; 'I should like to join in it; and if you will show me, I will not leave to-day, and have a night with you.'

Slippery shook his head, but the appearance of a half-sovereign acted like magic, and it was arranged that I should meet him an hour after dark. I told the Major the appointment I had made, and he agreed to accompany me, to see whether the keepers and watchers were on the look-out, and in case if they were, to take care I was not roughly handled by them.

We found Slippery Sam with his nets all ready, and soon commenced operations, and the Major entered into the fun with great glee, Sam ordering us about as if we were paid by him as assistants.

The Major worked away with a will, and declared he had never enjoyed himself so much for many a day. Doubtless the enjoyment was enhanced by the somewhat ridiculous conviction that he was poaching his own water, and he roared loud and long with laughter. Sam became enraged at this, and dashed us both for a couple of bunglers, and threatened to break the Major's head with a punt pole if he made such a row, as the Major would certainly have the lot of us on the treadmill if we were not quiet. We made a good night's work, and I bought all the fish of Sam and sent them up to the Hall.

Next morning the Major had the fish brought into an ante-room and covered with a cloth, and sent for the keeper.

"Where were you last night, Hamps?" "Down by the river, watching, sir." "Oh, you were on the watch; did you see anybody netting?" "No, sir." The Major removed the cloth and displayed the fish, and of course Hamps was discharged forthwith.

Slippery Sam was then sent for, and he appeared, looking very much down in the jaw. When he saw the fish and me with the Major, he at once knew that all had been found out, and expected the Major would send us both to prison. Slippery Sam looked at me and said, "I know'd how it would be, when that darned fool you had with you laughed out like the roar of a bull last night."

The Major found this too much for him, and sent forth again his peculiar hearty laugh. Poor Sam became bewildered; but when the Major offered him the vacant berth of river-keeper, he went slap upon his knees, and thanked the squire for making an honest man of him. And there never was apparently a better or more honest servant than Slippery Sam. He died on the estate at a good old age, and a nephew who succeeded him is at present filling his place on the Manor.

The Major, whose hair is now white, is to be found during the season almost nightly in the smoking-room of the "Rag and Famish" Army and Navy Club, and he is fond of telling his companions that he never enjoyed a bit of fishing more in his life than when he poached his own waters.

DEE FLIES—STANDARD PATTERNS.—(LAST ARTICLE.)

WITH the kind co-operation of the local fishing-tackle manufacturers and several well known and experienced Deeside anglers, we have, from a consensus of opinion expressed, been enabled to make a collection of twelve of the more popular mohair-dressed turkey-winged flies used by anglers on the Dee during the spring fishing season; and further, to determine with accuracy, in the minutest detail, the particular dressing of each. If to these we make the addition of three "Eagle" flies, there is good reason for imagining that even the most fastidious will find our list of plain patterns sufficiently varied to preclude the necessity for further additions. It has, of course, to be fully kept in view that such flies as the "Gordon," "Childer," "Robbie," "Silver Grey," and "Dusty Miller" (already noticed in these articles) may, at certain times during the early season, be used with equal advantage; but then it is not our object to treat of these at present. Neither can we regard them as spring patterns in any sense, because, being as they do to the category of fancy flies, they are used more generally in summer and autumn. Our Dee standard patterns, be it understood, are peculiar in respect that they are dressed with mohair instead of floss and have plain (turkey) instead of mixed wings. This style of dressing and make up has all along obtained and been regarded with very high and general favour by anglers on the Dee and Don. Though we can well perceive these flies to be of a special make, and particularly adapted for Aberdeenshire rivers, we have learned that they have been frequently used elsewhere with a very gratifying amount of success. On account of their cheapness and killing effectiveness we have good reason for predicting that their popularity, as they become better known, will prove very much wider in its range in the future than hitherto. We speak advisedly because we have received ample evidence that they kill as well, if not better, than flies twice or three times their cost, while the loss entailed to the angler if they are destroyed or appropriated by a fish does not prove a distressing financial calamity. Though we ourselves have always had a predilection for fancy flies, we are honest enough to confess that our best results have been invariably obtained when using the strip winged lures. This remark applies exclusively to spring fishing, and if anglers attach any value to it they may regard it as being given with our best wishes for their success whenever they think of experimenting with any of our standard patterns. *En bonne foi.*

With these prefatory remarks we proceed to classify the various flies, summarise briefly the times for using them, and alter, where necessary, any descriptions not given with accuracy in our previous articles. It may, however, be as well to state at the outset that in regard to minor details in the matter of dressing, it can serve no good end to draw hard and fast rules, only it ought to be carefully noted that the general appearance must not be very perceptibly altered, otherwise the name departs, and the production is simply a hybrid.

In our collection of standard patterns for Dee spring fishing we include the (1) "Balmoral," (2) "Gardener," (3) "Glentamar," (4) "Dr. Corbet," (5) "Ackroyd,"—white-winged and red-winged—(6) "Kintoul," (7) "Sir Peter," (8) "Grey Heron," (9) "Killer," (10) "Yellow Eagle," (11) "Grey Eagle," (12) "Red-winged Heron," (13) "Tartan," (14) "Tricolour,"—white-winged and mottled-winged—(15) "White Eagle." These we have arranged into four groups, and shaded in a manner corresponding as nearly as possible, with the various appearances (brownish, greyish, yellowish, whitish) they present in the water under ordinary circumstances. For the purpose of enabling us to follow out our theory of adaptation to aqueous and atmospheric conditions, we relegate Nos. 1 to 7 inclusive (5 red-winged) to the dark or brownish; Nos. 8, 9, and 10 to the yellowish; Nos. 11, 12, 13 and 14 (mottled-winged) to the greyish; and Nos. 5 (white-winged), 14 (white-winged), and 15 to the whitish shade. The "Ackroyd" and "Tricolour" have each two different sets of wings, but the rest of the dressing on both is precisely the same as described in one of our previous notices. As regards the "Glentamar," we have failed to secure unanimity of opinion. There seems to be two patterns, almost identical—in fact, since the difference is so trifling they may be regarded as one and the same. But a third pattern, said to be as good, if not a better killer than either is also put forward. We therefore consider it necessary to give a detailed description of these patterns, notwithstanding the fact that a preponderance of evidence favours the idea that No. 1 is the correct and original "Glentamar" fly. No. I.: tag, silver tinsel; tail, golden pheasant rump feather; body, two turns dark orange and two turns dark brown mohair; silver tinsel and gold twist; black heron hackle; teal, round shoulder; brown turkey wings; black head. No. II.: the same, only it has orange and claret instead of orange and brown mohair for a body. No. III.: tag, silver tinsel; tail, golden pheasant rump feather; body, yellow, blue, and orange mohair in equal proportion; silver tinsel; long black heron hackle; guinea fowl round shoulder; brown turkey wings, gradually inclining to a lighter shade toward the tips; mohair of body well picked out; black head. These patterns may be respectively termed "Glentamars" I., II., and III.

The "Tartan"—a fly that often brings good success to the angler—may be described thus: tag, silver tinsel; tail, golden pheasant, saddle feather; body, either orange and scarlet mohair in equal proportion, or two turns orange, two turns scarlet, and two turns blue mohair; gold tinsel; grey heron hackle, partly down body, teal round the shoulder; mottled turkey wings of brownish shade; black head. The dressing of the "Kintoul," previously described, may, if desired, be supplemented by a little golden pheasant rump feather round the shoulder. We, however, prefer this fly, minus the addition indicated. The black-bodied "Grey Eagle" answers its purpose best on a cloudless evening after sundown, when brought to play upon clear, streamy water with a gravelly bottom. In the evening, when the sky is unclouded, a "Yellow Eagle" is decidedly the best pattern to use in fishing deep pools. When a nebulous condition of atmosphere exists, fortune seldom favours abundantly. At such times, however, we cannot do better than recommend a trial of the "White Eagle" for pool or stream after sunset. As noted previously, a large sized "Gordon" often proves a resistless lure just before dusk. But this by the way, previous to proceeding with a short dissertation regarding the adaptiveness of our standard patterns to certain atmospheric and aqueous conditions.

On the subject we have in hand, nothing is more difficult than to speak with certainty. We have to call to our aid experience and observation, and in reliance solely upon these to make our application. If we keep fully in view the fact that at certain times fish will not be cheated by any wile whatever, and that the angler is probably tempting where there is nothing to tempt, the ground is cleared somewhat. Again, we may remark that any observant angler knows full well that a great deal depends upon the manner in which the fly is played in the water. Presuming that most Deeside anglers are experts, we do not offer any observations on the point, but proceed to remark that in streams of even current little motion of the rod is necessary from the time the fly touches the water till the next cast is made. On the other hand, if pools are to be fished properly, a fair motion of the rod is necessary, while a well-sunk

fly is half the success. Although it would be very absurd of us to assert dogmatically that a particular fly would be "certain" to prove fatal at a particular time, the combined experience of a few careful observers enables us to make a pretty near calculation in the main. Find your fish in the humour, and then anything you may offer—if at all near the correct size—is pretty certain to ensure a capture.

We now proceed to observe that flies of the dark or brownish order are better adapted for a normal condition of river than anything else—the "Balmoral," "Gardener," and "Glentanar" when the sky is unclouded; the "Kintoul" and red-winged "Ackroyds" when light, fleecy clouds are floating about; and "Dr. Corbet" and "Sir Peter" when the nimbus cloud reminds us of our water-proof.

The time when flies of the greyish pattern can be brought into requisition with greatest effect is immediately on the subsidence of the river into a fishable condition after a heavy fall of rain. We would commence with the "Grey Eagle" (the "Yellow Eagle" also does well), follow up with the "red-winged heron," substitute the "Tricolour" (mottle-winged) after a time, and end this order of flies with the "Tartan" just as the water is getting into its ordinary size and colour.

In a subsiding water of peaty colour, no matter what condition of cloud may exist, the yellowish patterns, if given a fair trial, are certain to prove most deadly lures when fish are plentiful and fairly well on "the take."

If a pretty stiff breeze prevails, and a canopy of leaden-hued clouds is reflected in the water, the whitish patterns are oftenest used with most advantage. This particular shade is found to answer almost every atmospheric variation when the river is snow-fed to any extent.

More detailed information with regard to our Standard patterns, and when to use them, &c., will be found in former articles.

Our task is done, and the question intrudes itself—To what end is all this discoursing?—*Nous verrons.*

[We trust, at any rate, it will end in a continuation of Mr. W.M.'s very interesting notes on the Rivers of Aberdeenshire, and how to fish them. Many of our readers will be glad to hear of good trout as well as salmon fishing.—ED.]

THE PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

The weekly meeting of this society took place on Monday last, and was of more than usual interest, it being the evening of "an extra chub competition," and also the last meeting prior to the annual dinner at the Holborn Restaurant. The room was well filled with members, and Dr. Brunton was unanimously voted to the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The chairman and his friend, Mr. H. B. Brown, had had a day's fishing at Tempsford, on the river Ouse. The Doctor commenced operations in a serious manner by hooking a small jack foul with triangle paternoster. He (the jack) was disengaged from the hooks and duly returned to the river. Mr. Brown next had one, then Dr. Brunton ran a third fish, which, from the way it acted, these gentlemen believed it to be a good one. You may judge of their disappointment when after a short struggle the fish cut off the gimp as if it had been cut with a pair of scissors. The weather, nevertheless, was beautiful, and the privilege of being away from the busy cares of life, and the cheerful aspect of nature more than compensated for a bad take. Mr. M. Blamey read a most graphic and interesting paper of his experiences for many years past in chub fishing. He produced for inspection his rods, lines, floats, hooks, flies, &c., the whole of which were much admired. The paper treated in

a very complete manner upon the many modes which can be successfully employed in the capture of the Chub. As this paper will appear in the press, it will be unnecessary to anticipate the same in this report. It is to be hoped it will appear in THE FISHING GAZETTE. The "extra chub competition" of the evening was for the greatest weight of chub taken with the rod and line from public water on 3rd Feb. All above 1 lb to be weighed in the same evening at the rooms of the society. Mr. Huggett secured first prize, four guineas, with two chub (only) from Staines. Mr. Fenning's second prize, two guineas, with one chub from Clifden Hampden, Mr. Lemann also weighed in. In responding to the toast of the successful anglers, it was explained that a more unfortunate day, so far as weather was concerned, could not possibly have been selected. Rain and snow all day, with heavy wind and intense cold were the accompaniment. Several members fished without success. It was proved that anglers have quite as good, or even a better, chance of sport in the middle as in the upper waters of the Thames. The Hon. Secretary (Mr. T. Lander) read a letter from the Commons Society, and a long discussion ensued in reference to riparian owners on the Thames asserting rights, many of which (to the members of the Society), appeared to be doubtful. It was, therefore, unanimously resolved that a petition should be drawn up which will, in due course, be laid before the members for signature, praying for a Government enquiry into the whole question, with a view to retaining the river for the cause of the public. The "Success of the Society" having been proposed, and "The Health of the Chairman," which were responded to, brought the meeting to a close.—T. H.

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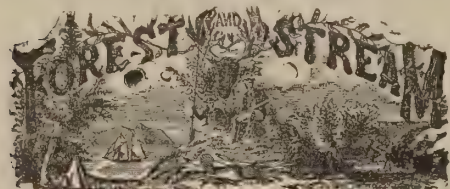
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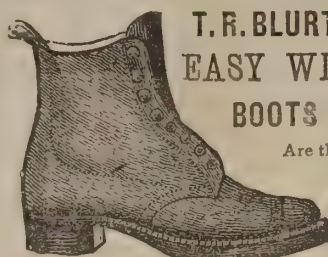
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The Fishing Gazette.

SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 1884.

THE FRESHWATER FISHERIES ACT, 1884.

A BILL (AS AMENDED IN COMMITTEE) FOR THE FURTHER PROTECTION OF FISH OTHER THAN SALMON IN FRESH WATERS.

WHEREAS it is expedient to extend the powers of boards of conservators in fishery districts for the better protection of freshwater fish.

Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1. (1.) In any fishery district subject to a board of conservators, the conservators may from time to time make byelaws for all or any of the following purposes; that is to say,

(i.) For determining the minimum size of the mesh of nets for catching freshwater fish other than salmon which may be lawfully used within the district of such board, so that such mesh shall not be less than one inch from knot to knot, measured when wet, and so that no person shall be compelled to use a mesh larger than three inches from knot to knot measured when wet;

(ii.) For determining the length and size and description of nets for catching freshwater fish, which may be lawfully used within the district of such board, and the manner of using the same; and

(iii.) For prohibiting the use of any mode and instrument of fishing for freshwater fish within the district of such board, where such mode or instrument appears to be prejudicial to the fisheries: Provided that no byelaw made under the authority of this section shall apply to any fixed nets for taking eels, or a landing net used as auxiliary to angling with a rod or line;

and may by any such byelaw impose a penalty not exceeding five pounds for each offence against any such byelaw, and provide for the seizure and for the forfeiture, on summary conviction, of nets, instruments, and devices used in contravention of any such byelaw, and of fish found in the possession of a person contravening any such byelaw, and of fish caught by any such means, or in any such manner, as is contrary to any such byelaw, and such fish shall be deemed to be illegally caught, and any such forfeiture may be enforced by a court of summary jurisdiction.

(2.) Sections thirty-nine to forty-five, both inclusive, and section sixty-two of the Salmon Fishery Act, 1873 (which sections relate to byelaws under that Act, and to the recovery, payment, and application of penalties under those byelaws), shall apply as if the said sections were herein re-enacted and in terms made applicable to byelaws under this Act and to the penalties thereby imposed.

2. Fishery districts may be formed, and conservators appointed, for water frequented by any freshwater fish, and section six of the Freshwater Fisheries Act, 1878, shall apply as if "freshwater fish" were therein substituted for "trout or char," and "salmon trout or char," and section twenty-seven of the Salmon Fishery Act, 1865, shall apply as if "freshwater fish" were therein substituted for "salmon," and

any conservators so appointed shall have the powers conferred on conservators by the Salmon Fishery Act, 1876.

3. In substitution for section eight of the Freshwater Fisheries Act, 1878, which shall be repealed, it is hereby enacted that section thirty-one of the Salmon Fishery Act, 1865, and sections thirty-six, thirty-seven, and thirty-eight of the Salmon Fishery Act, 1873 (which sections relate to the powers of water bailiffs), shall extend to all waters within the limits of this Act in like manner as if those sections were re-enacted in this Act, with the substitution of "freshwater fish" for "salmon," and of "waters frequented by freshwater fish" for "salmon river," and with a reference to the Freshwater Fisheries Act, 1878, and this Act, in substitution for the reference to the Salmon Fishery Acts, 1861 to 1873, or any of them.

4. Sub-heads (c.) and (d.) of sub-section three of section eleven of the Freshwater Fisheries Act, 1878, shall be read and construed as if, after the word "taking," in each of the said sub-heads, were inserted the words "in any several fishery, with the leave of the owner of such fishery, and in any public fishery, with the leave of the conservators."

5. This Act shall be construed as one with the Freshwater Fisheries Act, 1878, and that Act and this Act may together be cited as the Freshwater Fisheries Acts, 1878 and 1884, and this Act may be cited alone as the Freshwater Fisheries Act, 1884.

In the construction of this Act, the expression "freshwater fish" means any fish living permanently or temporarily in fresh water, exclusive of salmon.

6. This Act shall not extend to Scotland or Ireland, nor to the counties of Norfolk or Suffolk, or to the county of the city of Norwich.

[In the above-given copy of this most important measure, we have printed the amendments proposed by Mr. Birkbeck in italics. All these amendments were accepted by the Government, and Mr. Hibbert acknowledges that they greatly increased the value of the measure—in our opinion, they form by far the most valuable portion of it. The additional powers given by this new Act may be briefly stated as follows:—

1. Boards of conservators will be able to enforce the use of nets of a mesh of three inches, instead of two inches, as at present.

2. They can prohibit any unfair or prejudicial method of taking fish of any kind.

3. Boards of conservators may be appointed to deal with any rivers containing freshwater fish, whether frequented by salmon or not, and the powers given under the Salmon Fishery Acts to bailiffs are extended to all coarse fish where a fishery board shall be formed.

4. The taking of fish of any kind (in the fence months), whether for scientific purposes or for bait, is prohibited, unless in a private fishery the leave of the owner has been obtained, or in a public fishery the leave of the board of conservators for the district.

5. Any kind of fish which live either "permanently" or "temporarily" in fresh water, can be protected, not only in the fence months, but at all times, from unfair methods of taking them. For instance, the board may decree that no net of less than three inch mesh shall be used, no night-lines allowed, snatching, wiring, stroke-hauling, &c., be prohibited.

The grayling will at last be fully protected.—ED.]

PISCATORIAL SCRAPS.

By I. C. U.

THE readers of *The Field* have been favoured with a lengthy correspondence on the subject of "How Salmon Spawn," and I notice that our Editor has contributed two lengthy and most interesting letters, more particularly bearing on the causes of the hook or beak so frequently found in spent male fish on their return journey from the upper portions of their rivers. Mr. Marston is of opinion that the malformation is caused by the violent efforts made to remove the gravel and sand from the spot chosen as the bed for the reception of the spawn, and by its equally violent efforts to defend the position from other fish. Mr. George's opinions are entirely opposed to these views, and he says that the so-called malformation is nothing of the kind, and that the fish do not turn up the gravel with their snout, and do not fight.

It has occurred to me that I could give information on this subject which would be of some value, if it did not set the matter at rest, as it is derived from actual observation of salmon during more than one, two, or three seasons, under such circumstances as enables me to speak with absolute confidence of the "modus operandi" of spawning salmon on the river Taw. I don't think that even Mr. George will contend that the instincts of fish vary with the rivers they frequent, and that proof of how they spawn in the West is no proof of how they do it in the North.

For many happy years I. C. U.'s home was near the Taw, and numberless were the sport-seeking rambles on its banks which he then enjoyed. Up past Tawton, Chapelton, and on to Umberleigh by the right bank, over the bridge and back on the left, trying here and there a fancied spot, was a favourite long day's work. But it is not to these pleasant-to-remember journeyings that he is indebted for his knowledge of "How Salmon Spawn," although on many occasions he has crawled to the river's edge and noticed their movements through a screen of grass, and has watched by the hour their rocket-like first rush at a shallow, and seen their headlong speed sober down until they have fallen over on their side thoroughly exhausted. A rest of a few minutes and the struggle would recommence; but the victory was always theirs, and no impediment which perseverance and patience for a freshet could overcome would prevent their reaching the spawning beds which their instinct dictated necessary for their purpose, and to one of these spots we will follow them.

I have relatives whose farms are intersected by branches of a tributary of the Taw, which are so narrow as to be only a boy's jump, and so shallow in places as would seem to make it impossible that salmon could pass; yet here in the season you can stalk up and watch a pair of fish in a little pool with barely sufficient water to hold them, and see them throw up the gravel, the male with his snout, and the female with her tail, until the depth of water is considerably increased, and quite a little mound of stones is forced up by the side of the bank. The sex of the fish can readily be discovered by the difference in their movements, as the female always keeps her head up-stream, and backs on to her work, while the male will frequently turn his head and go down stream, as if on the watch for a disturber of their peace, and then with one wag of his tail he is round and back at his work, or his pleasure, by the side of her he so jealously guards. That's how salmon spawn in Devon.

Much success has rewarded the efforts of those who have laboured to make "the Freshwater Fisheries Act Amendment Bill" such a useful measure as it will undoubtedly prove itself. We have now the satisfaction of seeing the spirit of more than one of the resolutions passed at the Society of Arts meeting, over which Mr. Geen presided, embodied in this Bill. Our thanks are especially due to Mr. Hibbert for the courtesy with which he received our representative, and the anxiety he has shown to adopt our views where possible. Mr. Birkbeck has also devoted much time and thought to the subject, and no doubt he too will receive the London anglers' thanks.

Sheffield Anglers' Association. The quarterly meeting of the delegates of the above association was held on the 5th inst. Mr. Styring, the president, occupied the chair, and amongst others present were Messrs. T. Guest, J. Allott, G. Swindon, J. Sanderson, and T. Walker. The principal business brought before the meeting was the consideration of the proposed amendment of the Mundella Act. Letters were read on the subject from Mr. Wortley, M.P., and Mr. P. Geen, and at the close of an interesting discussion Mr. Guest proposed, and Shipley seconded, "that the thanks of the meeting be given to Mr. Wortley, M.P., Mr. Birkbeck, M.P., and Mr. P. Geen, for the interest they had taken in the matter."

Many anglers must have missed our portly, genial friend F. O. Clench. It was with the deepest regret that I learnt that his absence from amongst us was to be accounted for by a most serious illness; however, I am pleased to be able to add that he is gradually recovering, and that so late as this morning he is reported to be "still gaining strength."

The St. Neot's Fishery. Mr. T. Huggett in his letter to Mr. James Wainwright, which appeared in last week's FISHING GAZETTE, says, "As there is a towing-path, no harm is done to meadows or banks, and unless some anglers have misbehaved themselves, it savours somewhat of tyranny for gentlemen (even if they have the right) to destroy the healthful, yet harmless, recreation of London Anglers." Now before we denounce the riparian owners, it is our duty to see that the fault is not our own.

I fear that a totally different complexion will be put on the case if Mr. Huggett can induce Mr. Wainwright to answer these two questions. Were the gentlemen summoned for fishing from the towpath, or from other ground on which the shadow of a notice-board fell, warning trespassers off? Does Mr. Wainwright take a gun down with him and fire it off at whatever comes within range on that day when its report sounds the loudest?

If Mr. Wainwright can answer these two questions satisfactorily,

"I. C. U." will have done him a service by giving him an opportunity to do so. There is a report as loud and offensive as that of a gun while the church bells are tolling, that he alone is to blame for the prosecution that has taken place. We know that Mr. Huggett is ever ready to lend a helping hand in time of need, and I appeal to him to get at the facts from the friend he has so often fished with in the Ouse.

The Oxford Angling Preservation Society's annual dinner comes off on the 27th inst., when a strong muster of representatives from kindred societies is expected. Messrs. Spreckley and Geen, who have previously visited the society, and shown a keen interest in the more than usually arduous duties which it has undertaken, are the invited guests from the Thames Angling Preservation Society. It does not require much of a prophet to foretell that these two gentlemen will, if possible, be present. I cannot refrain from adding that, in my opinion, there is more poaching done in the Oxford district than any other on the Thames, and that I wish this young society success and strength sufficient to put it down. I will give facts and names to justify this opinion if anyone needs them.

"I. C. U.'s" notice of the Colne Fishery to be let has caused a number of societies to determine that it would be desirable to secure such a piece of water as that described for the use of their members. I anticipated considerable competition, but I did not expect so many would have applied for particulars, neither did I expect that so many secretaries of clubs would have forgotten the usual stamp for the reply.

The Editor informs me that Captain Etheridge has written a letter to him, which will appear in this number, in reference to my paragraph about the netting at Magna Charta. Of course, I must wait until it appears before I can deal with it; but that "I. C. U." can prove every statement he makes which is given as a fact, may be taken for granted by those who have any faith in his honesty of purpose in writing these "Scraps"; on the other hand, the Captain has proved himself such a determined enemy to the poachers that I shall receive his opinions with the same respect which I feel for his well-known courage in pouncing down on netters, without a moment's thought as to their numbers.

The Commons and Open Spaces Preservation Society has scored a splendid first victory. Mr. Story-Maskelyne's motion in the House of Commons has been agreed to—"That a select committee be appointed to inquire into the operation of the Acts for the preservation of the Thames, and the steps which are necessary to secure the enjoyment of the river as a place of recreation."

I hear that Mr. Marston's lost umbrella is found, and that it was discovered in such a place as to cause considerable wonderment as to who in his right and sober senses could have put it there (the members of the Richmond Whiskey Club are terribly funny fellows). Mr. Samuel Morgan has also lost his umbrella; but as he is an old friend, I will tell him that by applying to the waiter in the "Knights of the Round Table Room," at Simpson's, he will get it returned to him. Yet another umbrella lost, a veritable faded green gingham, one of those the old women in Devon hold up as they cry to the driver of the train, "Stap! stap! my darter be goin' to Lunnon!" When found, it belongs to I. C. U.

[The umbrella may have been found, but the owner has not yet "recovered" it, though it is an old favourite which had been "recovered" many a time.—ED.]

MR. HENRY IRVING, THE ACTOR AND ANGLER.

ENGLISH anglers will have felt highly gratified at the wonderful and, indeed, unprecedented amount of success which Mr. Irving has achieved in America. Mr. Irving is an enthusiastic angler, and an accomplished artist with the fly rod; and it is no secret that he owes much of his success on the stage to those quiet days on the trout stream when the study of Shakespeare and the killing of trout alternately occupied his attention.

Another great exponent of Shakespeare on the stage, the late Mr. Phelps, spent most of his spare time in fly fishing for trout in the Darent, at Farningham.

GRANT'S MORELLA CHERRY BRANDY.

WE are glad to see that this splendid "Sportsman's Liqueur" has obtained a first-class award at the Calcutta International Exhibition.

THE SPORTSMAN'S EXHIBITION.

IN consequence of not having received some blocks in time, we are obliged to hold over our notice of this Exhibition until next week. To anglers the chief attractions were the exhibits of Messrs. Williams and Co., Watson and Co., Hardy Brothers, and the Berthon Boat Company.

CLUB REPORTS.

AMICABLE BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

Mr. Partrick, roach, 15 lb. 3 oz.; Mr. Arnold, roach, 6 lb. 10 oz., dace, 6 oz.; Mr. Harding, roach, 4 lb. dace, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb.; rudd, 4 oz.; Mr. Marshall, roach, 4 lb. 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.; Mr. Dwelly, perch, 1 lb. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. roach, 1 lb. 1 oz., dace, 14 oz.—J. MORLEDGE.

ANGLERS' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

Since my last report I beg to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of 10s. 6d. annual subscription from H. Brookwell Angling Society.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

BRISTOL GOLDEN CARP ANGLING ASSOCIATION.

We are pleased to say that our worthy secretary (Mr. Lewis Wride) had the pleasure of showing us the first trout of the season, which he caught near Bitton on Saturday last. We could not wish for a better specimen, as he was in splendid condition, and scaled nearly 4 lb. It was shown in the window of Mr. Withers, Lower Arcade, on Monday and Tuesday, and was visited by large numbers of the gentle craft.

BROTHERS WELL-MET ANGLING SOCIETY.

A contest, under the auspices of the above society, took place at Kingswood on the 9th inst. for the benefit of those left behind of a deceased brother member. T. Kimberley won the first prize, a handsome cup; and Messrs. Ewer, Gardiner, Foley, Hunt, and Trim were the other successful contestants. Though a bright, fine day owing to condition of water the takes were very small, the winner's take being eight perch, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.; twenty-six competitors.—A. CLEMENT, sec.

BURDETT ANGLING SOCIETY.

The members of the above club fished a pegged-down match at Ware on the 9th inst. for a series of prizes, with the following result:—Mr. Coughlan, first, with chub, roach, and dace; Mr. Gibbons, second, roach; Mr. Newton, third, perch; Mr. Flint, fourth, dace; Mr. Ellis, fifth, roach; and Mr. Hastings, sen., sixth, roach. The takes were very small; there were many blanks.—T. G. WALKER.

CITY OF LONDON ANGLING SOCIETY.

On the 9th a few of our members visited Penton Hook to compete for prizes. The river was very much out of condition, the takes being small in consequence.—Mr. Chambers winning the 1st prize, with roach, dace, and gudgeon; Mr. Crouch, 2nd, with dace; Mr. Nitz, 3rd, with roach; Messrs. Gentry and Clarkson also having fish.—CAS.

CLAPHAM JUNCTION ANGLING SOCIETY.

Since my last report the following members weighed in fish:—Messrs. R. A. Banfield, W. Maslin, L. Boisseau, E. Wakeford, E. Wilson, J. Veaser. The prize for perch in February was taken by Mr. E. Wakeford, and the first prize for dace on the last Sunday of the season was taken by Mr. W. Maslin, and second prize by Mr. L. Boisseau, and prize for largest roach taken by Mr. E. Wakeford. Members are requested to attend on Thursday next, March 20th, for important business.—E. WILSON, sec.

COBDEN ANGLING SOCIETY.

On the 9th inst. a great many of our members went out, it being the last occasion this season that most of them would have an opportunity of trying their skill with the rod and line. The result, on the whole, was very satisfactory, as the trays were completely filled with fish in the evening. Among the heaviest takes may be mentioned Mr. Jenkins, 6 lb. 11 oz., chiefly dace. Mr. Wilkinson followed very closely with 6 lb. 7 oz. of similar fish. Mr. Evans was next with 4 lb. 10 oz., roach and dace. Mr. Sharland had a small barbel and several nice dace. Several other members were successful, and among them Mr. Reeves, who caught a small jack.—C. REEVES, sec.

DALSTON ANGLING SOCIETY.

On March 9th we had a very fine show of roach for the last week of the season, one gentleman showing 18 lb. Will members please to recollect that the 25th is the end of our financial year.—S. MALBY, sec.

DURHAM DERWENT ANGLING ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the above association took place on Saturday evening 23rd February 1884, in the Town Hall, Shotley Bridge, Durham. The chair was occupied by Mr. Booth, of Summerdale (president of the association) and there was a large attendance of members, including representatives from all the villages standing in proximity to the river Derwent. The treasurer (Mr. Nicholas Brown, Shotley Bridge) presented his financial statement for the past year, which was duly examined, and the several items were ascertained to be correct. The sale of tickets during the last season realised £14 11s. 10d.; the bank interest amounted to 13s., making a total income for the year of £15 4s. During that period the association had expended £31 8s. 6d., showing that they had a balance to the debit account for the year of £16 4s. 6d., thus reducing the balance in the hands of the treasurer to £47 5s. 9d. The chairman, in commenting on the financial position of the association, explained that the deficiency was accounted for by the fact that during the past season they had placed 6,000 fry, 4,000 fario, and 2,000 Levenensis into the river, at a cost of £16 12s., thus showing that the balance of debit is really equivalent to the amount expended in fish. From the foregoing statement the members would see that if they were to go on depositing fish in the river as fast as they were taken out, they would have to increase the annual subscription for the year (2s. 6d.) The next business was the election of officers for the forthcoming

season. Mr. Booth was unanimously re-appointed president; Mr. Eli Burton (Shotley Bridge), hon. secretary; and Mr. N. Brown, treasurer. The following gentlemen were chosen as a committee: Dr. Geo. Renton, Messrs. W. Dickinson, W. Palliser, R. Charlton, Jos. Oley, Geo. Weedy, J. A. Jack, H. Youll, Nicholson Charlton, and Thos. Coulson. Mr. Thompson (Shotley Bridge) made a proposal to the effect that the subscriptions be increased to 3s. 6d. for the season; the usual entrance fee being enforced. The motion was seconded and carried by a majority of two votes. It was resolved that the season should open on the 1st March, and terminate on the 16th October. The chairman said he was deputed at the last meeting to communicate with the Misses Surtees, of Hamsterley Hall, to apply for a deputation over the water through their estate, and he was happy to say the request had been granted! He had likewise communicated with Col. Fife-Cookson, of Whitehall, Chester-le-Street, as to a deputation over his portion of the Derwent, and he was glad to announce that such permission had been given. In a letter addressed to him (the chairman) at the time, Col. Fife-Cookson warmly approved of the objects of the association, and hoped the low subscriptions would enable the privileges of such an ennobling pursuit to be enjoyed by the working men. The watchers at Blanchland reported to the secretary a case of poaching near Millshields, and the committee thought it desirable that the offender should be prosecuted, and a conviction was sustained. The case was reported in the newspapers at the time, and he trusted it would prove a warning to others, as showing that the association did not allow the water to be fished by unauthorised persons. Mr. Palliser spoke very hopefully of the prospects of the following season, and promised the anglers resident at the low side of Ebchester a capital treat during the ensuing summer. The case of Mr. Farrage, of the Spen, who was expelled from the association for the last season, in consequence of alleged irregularities practised on the treasurer and a member of the association, was referred to the consideration of the committee. On the motion of Mr. Jack, seconded by the secretary, a vote of thanks to the chairman brought the meeting to a close.

EDMONTON AND TOTENHAM ANGLING SOCIETY.

The members of the above club, who were out for the last time, all met with success, and a very nice show of Lea roach was the consequence. Messrs. Warren, Foster, and Ferry weighed in from Broxbourne, and Messrs. O. Wade and Crane from Ware and Hertford.—F. A. GRAY, sec.

FITZROY ANGLING SOCIETY.

The following members of the above society were out on the 9th inst., Mr. Mitchell, with a splendid show of roach, scaling 15 lb.; Mr. King, 5 lb. of roach, one scaling 1 lb. 4 oz.; Mr. Trasker with roach and dace; Mr. Weber with roach; Mr. Davies with roach and dace; Mr. Baily with a nice tray of dace; Mr. Day with jack and dace. On Tuesday, March 11th, Mr. King caught some fine roach and dace at Taplow. Mr. Murray, of Uxbridge, a blind gentleman, sent us a handsome chub, weighing 4 lb., and two splendid roach, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. each—gone to be preserved.—G. A. HARRIS.

GLOBE ANGLING SOCIETY.

The next West-Central return visit will be paid to the above society on Thursday, the 20th inst., when every effort will be made to ensure the comfort and amusement for those who may favour us with a visit. Tram cars and trains to Finsbury Park every few minutes. The club house is only three minutes' walk from Finsbury Park Station.—JOSEPH J. HOLMES, sec.

GOLDEN BARBEL.

The following is the result of competition among the members of this society at Windsor on Feb. 17th. First, Mr. Bigsby, with 2 lb. 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. roach; second, Mr. J. Stanton, 2 lb. 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. chub; third, H. Stanton, 15 oz. perch; fourth, J. Jones, 12 oz. dace; fifth, Mr. Harper, 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. perch; sixth, J. Roach, 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. dace; seventh, Mr. Fowler, 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. roach; eighth, Mr. Henrie, 4 oz. roach; seventeen members competed. On Feb. 24th, the following weighed in fish:—Mr. Allen, 2 lb. 15 oz. roach and 1 dace; Mr. Henrie, 2 lb. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. roach and dace; Mr. J. Roach, 2 lb. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. roach and dace; Mr. Green, 2 lb. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. roach and dace; Mr. Crow, 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. dace; Mr. Lawford, 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. roach; Mr. Stanton, 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. perch. March 2nd, another nice lot. Mr. Henri, 6 lb. 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. roach; Mr. Allen, 4 lb. 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. roach; Mr. Green, 3 lb. 8 oz. roach and dace; Mr. Bigsby, 2 lb. 7 oz. roach and dace; Mr. J. Roach, 1 lb. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. roach and dace; Mr. Hall, 3 oz. roach and dace; Mr. Stanton, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. perch. On the 9th, the excitement was great as to who would get the first prize from the Thames. Mr. Henrie had during the past three weekly occasions managed to get from 4 oz. on the first, 2 lb. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. on the second, 6 lb. 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. on the third, and this day he led the way with 16 lb. 4 oz. of roach and dace, followed by Mr. Green with 5 lb. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.; Mr. J. Roach, 4 lb. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.; Mr. Allen, 3 lb. 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.; Mr. J. Jones, 3 lb. 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.; Mr. B—, 2 lb. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.; Mr. Stanton, 1 lb. 4 oz.; Mr. Crow, 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.; Mr. Bigsby, 4 oz. Several of the members were out again on the 11th. Mr. Lawford managed to get 4 lb. of perch, roach and dace, from the Upper Thames. Mr. Crow had a nice lot of dace from Teddington. What do you think of the "Boys" now, Mr. G. D., of Horsham?—PIXIE.

GREAT GRIMSBY ANGLING ASSOCIATION.

Herewith I hand you the names of the prize winners as promised. 37 took part in the match, and the weather was beautiful. Successful competitors:—Entrance money as below, 37s. Mr. J. Troller, 1st prize, £1 5s. Mr. J. Ellis; 2nd, £1, Mr. J. Stoke; 3rd, 17s. 6d., Mr. Deane; 4th, 15s., Mr. J. Robinson; 5th, 10s., Mr. Croft; 6th, 7s. 6d., Mr. Proctor; 7th, 5s., Mr. W. Robinson. The prizes given by Messrs. James White, William Waugh, William Proctor (not won), Thompson and Green, James Brown, John Stokes, John Troller, William Waugh, John Troller, W. Fanthorpe and Proctor, John Stokes, Hard, W. Fanthorpe, F. Robinson, W. Proctor, John Troller (as stated above), John Stokes, James White, William Johnson, William Fox, Southern, (not won.)

GREAT NORTHERN BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

We had a nice little show of roach from the Lea on Friday, March 7th. Mr. C. Watling, jun., having 11 lb. 12 oz.; Mr. O. Watling, sen., 5 lb.; Mr. J. Fitch, 1 lb. 8 oz. On March 9th, the show of fish was very good, over 50 lb. being weighed in. Mr. J. Fitch, perch and dace, 1 dace 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.; Mr. Theobald, roach, 8 lb. 10 oz.; Mr. W. Parkin, 3 lb. 7 oz.; Mr. C. Warren, 2 lb. 6 oz.; Mr. G. Watling, 2 lb. 14 oz.; Mr. Page, roach, 2 lb. 8 oz.; Mr. Graves, 1 lb. 13 oz.; Mr. J. Watling, 2 lb. 10 oz.; Mr. King, 2 lb. 1 oz.; Mr. Armstrong, 1 lb. 12 oz.; Mr. Cowper, perch and dace, 7 lb. 1 oz., 1 dace 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.; Mr. Dingley, roach, 5 lb. 10 oz.; Mr. Mullins, 1 lb. 7 oz.; Mr.

Stammer, a brace of nice chub from Watford, weighing 5 lb. 12 oz., the heaviest fish weighing 4 lb. 2 oz.; Mr. Baker, 1 lb. 1 oz.; Mr. Scott, 1 lb. 5 oz.; Mr. C. Watling 2 lb. 1 oz. The dace taken by Mr. Fitch and the chub taken by Mr. Stammer have been forwarded to Mr. Gibson, Richmond-road, Barnsbury, to be preserved. The next Central Association return visit will be paid to this society on Wednesday, March 19th.—J. FITCH, jun., sec.

GRESHAM ANGLING SOCIETY.

The ordinary weekly meeting of this society was held on Tuesday evening, Mr. Field in the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed and a quantity of correspondence disposed of. A letter was read from Lord George Hamilton, president of the society, expressing his willingness to present the petition to the House of Commons forwarded to him by the direction of the last meeting. Mr. Godwin explained that at the last meeting his intention was not to recommend the society to ask their President to oppose the whole of the Freshwater Fisheries Bill, but only that part of it pertaining to the reduction in the size of the mesh of the net to be used. The Bill, he explained, contained several excellent provisions, and Mr. Birkbeck's amendments were, of course, worthy of support, and he had written to Lord George Hamilton to this effect. Captain Alfred reported that he had taken up the petition to the House of Commons, that it had been signed by several hundred anglers and others, and that he had been materially assisted in obtaining the signatures of Messrs. Aveling, Bentley, and Copeland, the latter having succeeded in obtaining nearly 200 names within a very short space of time. Mr. McDowall weighed in a very fine roach of 1 lb. 8 oz. Mr. Sachs has offered a series of prizes for specimen fish, the particulars of which will be shortly announced. The usual vote of thanks to the Chairman brought the proceedings to a close. The secretary will be glad to hear from those members who have not yet replied to the circular respecting the supper to take place on the 25th inst.—H.

HOXTON BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

Very fair show of fish for the close of the season. Roach by J. Osborne, 27 lb. 12½ oz.; A. Dean, 8 lb. 15½ oz.; A. Hattemere, 6 lb. 1 oz.; W. Pledger, 5 lb. 7 oz.; W. High, 5 lb. 0½ oz.; G. Swinerton, 2 lb. 11 oz.; G. H. Wood, perch 3 lb. 5 oz.; H. Steadman, chub 4 lb. 0½ oz.; W. Cooper, chub 2 lb. 6 oz.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

NEW WALTON AND COTTON ANGLING SOCIETY.

Since my last report the following members have been keeping up the prestige of this society:—On February 6th, Mr. Stocker, roach and dace; Feb. 13th, roach; Feb. 24th, roach and dace, 7 lb. 3½ oz.; March 2nd, chub; March 5th, roach; March 9th, roach, 7 lb. 15 oz.; and March 12th, roach, 7 lb. 7 oz.; Mr. Wyeth, Feb. 20th, roach. On March 28th, Messrs. Humphrey and White were rewarded with a grand take of pike, chub, and roach, the largest pike bumping the scale at 13 lb. 7 oz., which has been sent to be preserved. On March 5th, our esteemed treasurer, Mr. H. Hallam, graced the trays of the society with a splendid show of chub weighing 25 lb. 11 oz., the largest fish going 3 lb. 12 oz. Mr. White, March 12th, roach, 4 lb. 11½ oz., and 2 perch; Mr. Humphrey, March 12th, roach, 6 lb. 10½ oz., 2 jack, and 1 perch.—W. T. HAWKINS, hon. sec.

ORIGINAL CLERKENWELL PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

The following members weighed in on the 9th inst.:—Mr. Richardson, roach and dace; Mr. Longman, roach; Mr. Kent, chub; Mr. Crafford, roach and dace; Mr. Obbard, dace and one chub, 3 lb. 14 oz. Our return Eastern District visit was a good one, twelve clubs answering on the roll being called, the Alliance, Amicable Waltonians, the Reform, the Convivial, the Hearts of Oak, the Eastonians, the Little Independent, City of London, the Fitzroy, Crown, Independent Bros., and the above Original. I must say they came up in round numbers, the room being crowded. We had some capital songs given by the following visitors:—Mr. Stephens, two, Messrs. Neil, Wilcockson, Brockwell, Parsons, Ford, Obbard, Clark, Bess, Holt, Roberts, and Whiteman. Mr. Barr and his old chums were in first-class trim for an entertainment, and we could not bar Barr's old favourite song, "Napoleon the Third," which was given as good as ever by him. The next return Eastern District will take place at the Alliance.—J. OBBARD, sec.

PECKHAM BROTHERS' ANGLING ASSOCIATION.

The members of this society finished the season on the 9th at Shepperton for a number of club prizes, the following winning in the order named:—Murriss, Gardham, Otjen, Page, Land, and Parsons. Mr. Stiddolph also won the camp stool presented by Mr. Gold. The "caterer" was seen very busy on the bank, and I should think he, at least, will be glad of a rest. He intends having his box enlarged. All members are requested to attend on Tuesday next. Dinner tickets not returned on that date will be considered sold. We shall be pleased to welcome any of our brothers of the rod on the 25th, when I trust we shall spend a very pleasant evening.—GADFLY.

PHENIX ANGLING SOCIETY.

The members of the above society were out in strong force on the 9th inst. at Bourne End, fishing for a number of prizes, but; I am sorry to say, fish were not so plentiful as usual owing to the water being rather thick. A very jolly day was spent amongst the members, but a little uneasiness was felt about Mr. Grist not being seen during the day, as it was reported along the banks that a young man had fell in the water, which, from the description, we thought was Mr. Grist; but, I am glad to say, Mr. Grist was found quite safe, and fished at Cookham, returning not very well pleased with his day's sport, as he was troubled all day with minnow in his favourite swim. Mr. Packer stepped in first, as usual, by winning the first prize; Mr. Keen, second; Mr. A. Ashley, third; Messrs. F. Ashley, Bartrip, Maynard, Milton, and Grist, also had fish from Bourne End. Mr. Keen and Bartrip were out again on the 11th inst., but, I am sorry to say, sport was very bad for them; but Mr. Bartrip was fortunate enough to capture a very pretty roach from the Colne, close on a pound, which brought him home better pleased than he might have been. Members will please attend next, Tuesday evening, the 18th, as there will be a little interesting business to the members.—J. G.

RODNEY PISCATORIALS.

Fish was scarce on our trays on the 9th. Messrs. Pyne, Grant, and Liverage just managed to save the society from a blank, with a few roach and dace. At the meeting held on the 12th, Messrs. Arnsby and Pyne were appointed

auditors. It was also decided that a smoking concert and the distribution of prizes take place on the first Wednesday in April. Mr. R. Chantry, assisted by Mr. C. Grant, will take the chair. All members and friends are respectfully invited to honour us with their company on this occasion.—PIXIE.

ROYAL GEORGE ANGLING SOCIETY.

A splendid show of fish appeared on our trays on the 9th inst. from different parts of the Thames. Mr. Sinclair brought home some fine dace and a chub of about 2 lb. from Twickenham. Messrs. Hewitt and Barraclough also had dace from the same place. Mr. Hughes had roach, dace, and perch from the upper river—a really good take for the time of year. Messrs. Holden and Parsons also placed on the tray an excellent show of roach and dace. We visit Bourne End on the 16th to fight our final battle of the season. I will report the result next week. Our smoking concert went off well on Tuesday night last. We had a goodly number of visitors present, who seemed to thoroughly appreciate the endeavours of the members to amuse them. Mr. Hallam, a visitor, accompanied himself, and sang, "Sailing." Mr. Sinclair, member, gave us "Tinkle, tinkle tum." Mr. Bailey, member, sang a very funny song, "Out on the spree." Then Mr. Roberts, visitor, gave us, accompanying himself, "Powder Monkey Jim." Mr. Sweet, visitor, who has a very sweet voice, sang a very sweet song entitled, "Sunshine follows rain." Mr. Holden, an old and valued member, gave "Hark, the Drum." Mr. Sinclair, sen., "Dear old pals." The chairman followed with a song written by himself for the occasion, entitled, "The Jolly Angler." Mr. Palmer, vice-chairman, sang "Little Hero" with great effect. Mr. Henderson, member, who has a very fine tenor voice, came to the front with "Let me like a soldier fall." Mr. Harris, visitor, sang, "Just to please the Boy," but I think it was just to please the members present; however, it was very funny. Then we had from a visitor, Mr. Grosvenor, a good old song, "Old Simon, the Cellarer," which was done excellently well. Mr. Rider, chairman, by special desire, sang a comic song. He was followed by Mr. Roberts with a song that had a chorus that no fellow can understand. Mr. Hallam came on the scene once more with "Those Dear, Dear Friends of Old." The brothers Bailey sang a duet, which was followed by Mr. Hewitt with the "Midshipmite," after which a vote of thanks was accorded the two gentlemen who kindly presided at the piano. "Auld Lang Syne" was joined in by the whole of the company, and everybody seemed sorry to say "Good-night," including—W. H. R.

SOCIABLE BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

Our members competed for a prize on the 9th inst. for best show of fish, Mr. T. Keymer proving the winner with 9 lb. 14½ oz. of roach. During the week Mr. Strange has had fine roach from the Lea—on the 6th, 11½ lb., largest 1 lb. 3 oz.; 7th, 8½ lb.; 8th, 5 lb. 9½ oz., largest 1 lb. 5½ oz.; and 9th, 5 lb. The following members also had fish:—Mr. J. Taylor, roach; Mr. O. Lloyd, roach; Mr. H. Mills, roach and chub; and Mr. H. Smith, roach.—W. S. W.

SOUTH-EASTERN ANGLING SOCIETY.

Several of our members were out on the 9th, and among the rest, Messrs. Allard, J. W. Smith, J. Smith, sen., and J. Smith, jun., weighed in some fine jack, chub, roach, and dace, other members being just too late. On Wednesday a good meeting was held, and splendid business talked of. Wednesday, 26th inst., is quarterly night, when it is hoped all will attend, as on that night special important business is to be transacted. Amongst other things, settlement as to supper, revising of rules, &c. Some of our members were out to-day but the reports as to floods, &c., very discouraging. Mr. Gold, of the Waterloo Road, exhibited to his brother members a novel rod, which can be used for several kinds of fishing, and worthy of being surveyed by all anglers.—F. H. H. WESTON, sec.

SOUTH LONDON ANGLING SOCIETY.

The last club match of the season was fished for at Rye House on the 2nd inst., under very disadvantageous circumstances. The day was bitterly cold and the fish were perfectly off the feed. As it was, however, only two fish were taken, and we came home quite tired, with the wind blowing in our faces all day long. Returning to the club, it was found that Mr. Ellis was first, taking first prize of 15s., and Mr. Kirwan, the second prize of 7s., the third not being taken. We are having a friendly match for a dinner on the 9th inst., at Goring, with the Walworth Waltonian Angling Society. We look to have ten a side, and the match is looked forward to with great interest by the members of our society. It is to be hoped the day may be fine and that we may have a good take of fish. We have arranged with the Railway Company to send a bus to convey us to the station, to be in good time to catch the 9 o'clock train from Paddington. May the best win, is my wish.—JOHN KIRWAN, sec.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

ST. JOHN'S ANGLING SOCIETY.

Our show of fish on the 9th inst. was one of the best this season, both in size and quantity. We found the Thames both thick and high, but all our members that went there had fish, as the following list will show:—Mr. Goudge, roach and dace; Mr. Lee, roach and gudgeon; Mr. Fudge, roach and dace; Mr. Thorling, roach, perch, and five dozen gudgeon. From the Lea, we had perch, roach, and jack, and some fine specimens of dace, by Mr. T. Bray, Mr. W. Davis, and "the youth with large feet."—F. T.

STANLEY ANGLERS' SOCIETY.

I beg to hand you the weights of fish registered by members of our society during the last two weeks:—Mr. W. R. Humby, seventeen roach and one perch, 10 lb. 2½ oz.; thirty-six roach, 24 lb. 12 oz.; six fish over 1 lb., two heaviest 1 lb. 5½ oz., 1 lb. 3½ oz.; rudd, 11 oz. Mr. H. Rose, three pike, 20 lb. 3 oz., heaviest 15 lb. 2 oz., and one tench 2 lb. 10½ oz. Mr. C. Scull, four perch, 2 lb.; twenty-five roach, 13 lb. 5½ oz.; thirty-eight roach, 18 lb. 1 oz., three over 1 lb.; heaviest, 1 lb. 1½ oz. Mr. C. P. Wheatstone, perch and roach, 1 lb. 7½ oz. Mr. G. Walker, one pike, 9 lb. 8 oz.; ten chub, 22 lb. 8 oz.; one fish, 4 lb. 11 oz.; one do., 3 lb. 6 oz.; one jack, 3 lb. 1 oz.; a brace of perch, 4 lb. 14 oz.; heaviest, 2 lb. 9½ oz.; four roach, 2 lb. 11½ oz.; heaviest, 1 lb. 4½ oz.; one tench, 2 lb. 5 oz., and twenty-two roach, 11 lb. 8½ oz. Members who were not present at the ordinary meeting on Wednesday evening last are reminded that the annual general meeting, which was opened as a matter of form, has been adjourned to Wednesday, April 9th, and it is hoped that all members will make a special effort to be present. In accordance with a resolution carried at the previous meeting, the paper read by Mr. Harry Rose ("Ye Stanley Rose"), entitled, "The History of a Blank;

or, a Search after Ye Giant Bream," has been printed, and copies circulated among the angling societies of London. The information, kindly supplied by Mr. T. Crumplen, that a Select Committee has been appointed by the House of Commons in accordance with Mr. Story-Maskelyne's proposition, was received by our members with great satisfaction.—G. E. W.

STOKE NEWINGTON ANGLING SOCIETY.

On the 9th inst. the following members weighed in:—T. Grettton, 4 lb. 14½ oz.; roach; C. Martin, 3 lb. 12½ oz.; roach; and C. F. Robinson, 12 oz. roach. This finishing up our season, if those gentlemen that have promised special prizes will kindly forward them to the secretary for distribution they will greatly oblige.—THOMAS GRETTON.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ANGLING SOCIETY.

A few members were out on Saturday, March 8th. The weather was most wretched, rain falling incessantly from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. Messrs. W. and T. Evans had very good baskets of perch; Mr. H. Evans, trout and grayling; Mr. T. Riley, trout and grayling, a very nice basket, the largest grayling weighing 1½ lb.; and Mr. J. Hollins, trout. The above were all had from private water. Our worthy and esteemed vice-president, Mr. E. Cocker, nothing daunted, tried the society's water for about an hour in the afternoon, and succeeded in landing a very nice jack weighing nearly 4 lb.—J. HOLLING, hon. sec.

WALTONIANS.

March 5 h, Mr. Brady, roach, 14 lb. 2½ oz. March 9 h, Mr. Hunt, roach, 17 lb. 6½ oz.; Mr. Jukes, jack, 4 lb. 3 oz.; chub, 2 lb. 13½ oz. Messrs. Walts ham, Malcom, Morris, Roland, Morgan, Starr, and Marriott also weighed in.—A. J. MARRIOTT.

WALWORTH WALTONIANS.

On the 9th Messrs. Bayley, Bedford, Cain, Mawbey, Piolaine, Irons, Hawkridge, and Irons contested against Messrs. Buck, Breewood, C. Ellis, Head, Buckham, Goody, Kirwin, and another of the members of "The South London," for a supper. The place for the contest was Goring. An omnibus was in attendance at Camberwell Gate to convey all parties to Paddington in time to catch the nine o'clock train, and they reached Goring in good time. No time was to be lost on reaching the appointed spot, as Messrs. Bayley and Buck had made all arrangements previously to the arrival of the train. The drawing of the swims having been got through, each one used his best endeavours to catch fish, which was persisted in by all till the time appointed to leave off, so as to catch the five o'clock train up to London, which they reached shortly after seven o'clock. Here the omnibus was waiting for them, and they arrived at the head-quarters of the above society about nine. After weighing the fish, the "South London" were declared the winners, through Messrs. C. Ellis and Goody having fish to the amount of 1 lb. 2 oz. The Walworth Waltonians were represented by Messrs. Irons and Hawkridge with 13½ oz. This is the first time the South London have won. They have challenged the Walworth Waltonians three times, and were beaten on the two previous occasions. A number of the members visited St. Margaret's on the 13th to compete for several prizes, among them being a side of bacon given by Mr. F. Grigg, and a silver watch, given by Mr. R. La Feuillade. The following is the result:—Messrs. Bedford 1 lb. 8½ oz.; Beale, 1 lb. 6½ oz.; Hawkridge, 1 lb. 2½ oz.; Mawbey, 1 lb. ¾ oz.; Weatherhead, 13 oz.; Fox, 13 oz.; Cain, 13 oz.; Bayley, 12½ oz.; Griffin, 5 oz. Mr. F. Longmate, of the Red Lion, gave a box of cigars for the heaviest weight of fish, which was won by Mr. Bedford. I had a sample of them, and like them very much. The minutes of the previous meeting were passed as read, and the gentlemen appointed to wait on another society, gave in their report, which was satisfactory. Five members were appointed as a committee. All members are requested to at end next Thursday to decide as to how that committee shall work. The five gentlemen appointed are Messrs. Bayley, Bedford, H. Dale, Weatherhead, and Gilbert.—PIXIE.

WELLINGTON ANGLING SOCIETY.

On Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday last, Mr. Palmer, fishing at Wellington, caught perch 13 lb., bream, 4 lb. 2 oz., roach, 7½ lb., and a jack, caught with a worm, 2 lb. 7 oz. On the 9th Messrs. Wright, Crocker, and Alexander got some roach, dace, and bleak from Shepperton, better than they expected, considering the state of the water. On Monday, the 10th, a smoking concert was held, and was a great success, many visitors from other societies favouring us with their company. The chair was taken by the host, Mr. Hills, vice Mr. Charles Crocker, and a very pleasant evening was spent. Amongst others, the following gentlemen obliged in the course of the evening:—Messrs. Brown, Excelsior; Davis, South London; Grant, and Grant, jun., Rodney; Small and Green, St. Alban's; Godfrey, Excelsior; Hillier and Gould, South-Eastern; and Hills, Dickson, Wright, Moore, Perrott, Richardson, &c., of the Wellington. Mr. Marsh, of the King's Head, Shepperton, came all the way on purpose to pay us a visit. On Wednesday Mr. Hills produced a pretty lot of barbel, gudgeon, and roach, from the Thames.—W. W. ALEXANDER, sec.

WESTBOURNE PARK PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

The members of this society fished an open Thames competition, on the 9th inst., to wind up the season, Mr. H. Thompson securing the first prize, with a good show of barbel; Messrs. Pink and G. Hulbert taking the two prizes offered. Included with Mr. Pink's fish was a bream of 4½ lb., in handsome condition, from Cookham, rather unusual from this neighbourhood. Considering the state of the river, everything passed off satisfactorily, as in former competitions of this society, and the prizes were handed over to the winners at the weekly meeting held on Tuesday, the 11th inst.; on which occasion also several matters of importance were discussed, more particularly in regard to rights on the river Thames. The secretary then received instructions to forward the annual subscription of £2 2s., to the Thames Angling Preservation Society; after which the re-election of Mr. G. Evans, as honorary treasurer and chairman, and Mr. H. Thompson, as honorary secretary, was confirmed, and a unanimous vote of thanks recorded for their past services. It has been proposed to hold the usual sweepstakes between members for the largest Thames trout taken on April 6th, although, sad to say, it was a blank ast year.—H.

St. MARGARET'S.—"Fairplay."—Write further particulars. Secrecy guaranteed; or call on Secretary. Expenses paid.

PRIZE NIGHT AT THE PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

It has been the custom now for some years to present the prizes to the successful competitors in the club room of the society, at Ashley's Hotel, Covent Garden, instead of taking up the time at the Annual Dinner, as was formerly the case, and the change has proved to be a very satisfactory one, besides making another pleasant and attractive evening for the members, and affording those who have not been fortunate in obtaining prizes an opportunity of congratulating their more fortunate brethren on their successful results. Accordingly, Monday evening last was set apart as the prize night of the season; and there is one grand and important feature in connection with the prizes offered by this society: they are won for "specimen fish," and not for "gross weight," the various competitions for the different species of fish being regulated by a largely-increased standard—that adopted by the Thames Fishery By-Laws. The chair was taken by Mr. R. S. Fennings (treasurer), and there were also present Dr. Brunton, Messrs. F. G. Pearce, T. Gillatt, F. H. Lemann, D. Godger, M. H. Blamey, F. Huggett, H. B. Brown, T. F. Harrison, H. Harden, W. H. Brougham, C. P. Wheatstone, James Lander, E. Foreman, H. Gray, B. Perelli-Rocco, T. R. Sachs, James Pattison, G. H. Thomas, H. J. Inderwick, T. G. Batt, G. Robinson, Sparrow, Walker, W. B. Adlington, G. Robinson, &c., &c. After reading the minutes, the meeting proceeded to the election of new members, and no fewer than nine were unanimously elected, and one old member reinstated. The following prizes were then presented by the chairman:—The heaviest fish taken during the year 1883 were as follows:—Salmon, 7½ lb. (Mr. T. R. Sachs); grayling, 2½ lb. (Dr. Brunton); Thames trout, 12 lb. 14 oz. (Mr. J. Ross Faulkner); pike, 17 lb. 4 oz. (Mr. G. Robinson); perch, 2 lb. (Mr. Robinson), barbel, 6 lb. 2 oz. (Mr. Blamey); roach, 1 lb. 12 oz. (Mr. Blamey); dace, 10 oz. (Mr. Harden); chub, 4½ lb. (Mr. Hammack); tench, 3 lb. 7 oz. (Mr. Huggett); bream, 5 lb. 2 oz. (Mr. Sachs). The prizes awarded by the society, on the conditions enforced by the rules of the club, for 1883 were as follows:—Mr. M. H. Blamey (including a silver cup of ten guineas for the greatest number of specimen fish from public waters), five prizes of the total value of £19 7s. 6d.; Mr. Thomas Huggett (including the first prizes in the perch and chub competitions), six prizes representing a total of £12 11s. 6d.; Mr. Edward F. reman (including the first prize in the Shentonian competition), three prizes amounting to £6 16s. 6d.; Mr. R. W. Shipway, five prizes amounting to £6 16s. 6d.; Dr. Brunton (including the first prize in the roach competition), three prizes making a total of six guineas; Mr. G. Robinson, three prizes, for the largest pike and perch, of the total value of £4 3s. 6d.; Mr. H. Harden, three prizes, for the largest dace, making a total of £3 2s. 6d.; Mr. J. Ross Faulkner, two prizes, one being for the largest Thames trout, £3 1s. 6d.; Mr. H. B. Brown, the second prize in the Shentonian competition, £2 12s. 6d.; Mr. R. S. Fennings, two prizes for the largest grayling and roach, £2 1s. 6d.; Mr. J. G. Andrew, for the largest chub, one guinea; Mr. T. G. Batt, for the largest perch, one guinea; Mr. T. R. Sachs, for the largest bream, £1; Mr. A. G. Hammack, for the largest chub, £1; Mr. E. Walker, for the largest tench, £1. The Consolation Prize of one guinea for "most shows of fish not taking a prize," was won by Mr. E. T. Sachs. The total amount of prizes offered in 1883 was £99 2s. 6d., and the sum won by the members amounted to £73, making a difference of £17 2s. 6d., as representing prizes not won. The greatest enthusiasm and good feeling prevailed, during the distribution of the prizes. On the recommendation of Mr. E. Foreman, the secretary was requested to write to Mr. T. J. Hamp, and express the high approval and satisfaction of the members of his arrangements and service of the Annual Dinner at the Holborn Restaurant, and a vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. C. B. M'Laren, for presiding on the occasion. The health of the prize-winners was cordially drank, and acknowledged by Mr. M. H. Blamey and Mr. Thomas Huggett. Most of the members present contributed liberally to the prize list of the present season, and there appeared every prospect of a greatly-increased list. The toast of "The Press," in conjunction with the health of Mr. W. H. Brougham, was drunk with great enthusiasm, and suitably responded to. The meeting throughout was of a most business-like character, and terminated with a cordial vote of thanks to the Chairman, Mr. T. R. Sachs, one of the members, has presented for prizes three copies each of the late Frank Buckland's work on "British Fishes" to each of the following clubs, "The Piscatorial," "The Gresham," "The Silver Trout," and "The Friendly Anglers," and one copy to the "Great Yarmouth Piscatorial Society.—B.

J. R. MACDONNELL v. R. B. MARSTON.

MANY of our good friends having expressed a kindly interest in this suit, which was tried before Mr. Justice Mathew on the 12th instant, we think it due to the Editor of this paper to state the case briefly. Mr. Macdonnell was engaged by Mr. Marston in the autumn of 1879 to collect advertisements, and an agreement was drawn up by which Mr. Macdonnell was to be paid a commission for the advertisements he collected, and that he was to have twelve months' notice before leaving the paper, unless in the meantime the paper should be discontinued or transferred to other hands, in which latter event Mr. Marston agreed to use his influence to place him in a similar position with the new proprietors.

In the autumn of 1881, Mr. Marston having become a partner in the firm of Sampson Low and Co., of which his father is the senior partner, he sold the FISHING GAZETTE to that firm; and after some correspondence, the new proprietors offered Mr. Macdonnell the exact terms of the old agreement. These terms Mr. Macdonnell distinctly refused in writing to accept, claiming that his agreement being with Mr. Marston, jun., he was entitled to the twelve months' notice from him, and accordingly he brought this action against him for loss of a year's employment, laying his damages at £205.

Mr. Justice Mathew held that Mr. Macdonnell was perfectly justified in refusing to accept employment under the new firm, but that as the firm, by Mr. Marston, jun.'s influence, had agreed to accept him on the old terms, no possible damages could accrue. He, therefore, gave a verdict for the plaintiff, with nominal damages and without costs.

We can now only express our regret that Mr. Macdonnell should have been so ill-advised as to take this action, seeing that this result was inevitable. Having refused the employment offered to him, he still hoped, by a legal quibble, to get payment for that employment without working for it.

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SALMON AND TROUT FLIES, SUITABLE FOR
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Celebrated Floating May Flies, Green & Grey Drakes.

Which are still being dressed by the same experienced hands as for many years past, and
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The enormous and increasing demand for which is a sufficient guarantee for the high
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"Art, empire, earth itself, to change are doomed."—THE HERMIT.

EXCHANGE.

Things Wanted—to BUY, to SELL, or to EXCHANGE.

N.B.—We take no responsibility whatever in connection with advertisements inserted
in this or other parts of this paper; but beg our readers to expose any case of im-
position. The prices for inserting advertisements in this "EXCHANGE"
Column are 6d. per line for one, or 4d. per line for more than one insertion.
Address Manager, FISHING GAZETTE, 12 and 13, Fetter Lane, London, and send
stamps with the order, or the advertisement cannot be inserted.WANTED.—Particulars and prices of Secondhand Books on Angling and Fish Culture.
Must be in good condition—Address Editor, FISHING GAZETTE, 12 and 13, Fetter Lane,
London, E.C.FOR SALE.—A two-piece (splice) Castle Connell Fly Rod, 11 oz. weight, extra top
with check winch, and 20 yards silk line made to balance rod; never used. Price 15s.—
Mr. E. Hosken, 49, Cazenove Road, Stoke Newington, London.THE DELAY IN THE ISSUE OF THE DIPLOMAS OF
THE INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES EXHIBITION.IN consequence of inquiries as to the reason for the delay in
the issue of the Diploma of Honour, the Executive Com-
mittee beg to state that—owing to the elaborate nature of the
design, which prevented the artist from delivering it at the time
originally agreed upon, and to the laborious process of repro-
duction, which necessitates some months of execution—the
Diploma cannot be delivered until the summer.

By order,

EDWARD CUNLIFFE-OWEN,
Secretary.

A FINE CANADIAN SALMON RIVER TO LET.

AMONG the advertisements in our columns this week is one
of the lease of one of the best rivers on the north side of
the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

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RIVER REPORTS.

TIME OF HIGH WATER IN THE THAMES.

To find the time of high water in the Thames at any of the following places to the time of high water at London Bridge (given below).

	30 minutes for Chelsea.
Add	40 " Putney.
	45 " Hammersmith.
	50 " Barnes.
	55 " Kew.
	75 " Richmond.
	80 " Twickenham.
	85 " Teddington.

Example:—If it is high water at 2 o'clock at London Bridge, it will be high water at Teddington about 3.25, or eighty-five minutes later; but it must be remembered that a strong wind accelerates or retards the tide very much.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.

		Morning.	Afternoon.
For Saturday, March 15	4.0	4.16	
Sunday, " 16	4.31	4.47	
Monday, " 17	5.3	5.18	
Tuesday, " 18	5.34	5.52	
Wednesday, " 19	6.12	6.33	
Thursday, " 20	6.57	7.24	
Friday, " 21	7.57	8.33	

NOTE.—The fence months for coarse fish in England and Wales commence to day, March 15, and end June 15.

THE LOWER THAMES.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The general angling season will not close under very favourable auspices in consequence of the bad condition of the water, and the unsettled state of the weather. The trout season commences on the 1st of April, and already some good fish have been seen on the feed.

Richmond.

Christopher Brown, one day with Mr. King, 11 lb. of roach and dace, and another day with another gentleman, 7 lb. of dace. Henry Wheeler, in two days, twelve dozen of dace; Job Brain, in three days, 18 lb. of roach and dace; and H. Howard, in one day, eight dozen of dace. The bank anglers have registered at the Jolly Anglers as follows:—Mr. Evans, two roach weighing 1½ lb., and five and a half dozen of dace; Mr. Sharland, a barbel or 1 lb. roach, and four and a half dozen of dace; Mr. Blake, two and a half dozen; Mr. Coombes, one and a half dozen; Mr. Ackland, 2 lb.; Mr. Gray, three dozen; and Mr. Marshall, one and a half dozen. At the Waterman's Arms, Mr. S. Kepp registered thirty-three fish.

Twickenham.

R. Moffatt, in one day, six dozen of dace; John Coxen, jun., one and a half dozen; John Spong, one day with Mr. Marsh, 5½ dozen of dace, another day with Mr. Campbell, two and a half dozen, and another day eight dozen; Joseph Dobbin, five and a half dozen of dace; George Coxen, six dozen; and R. Coxen, in two days, eight dozen. A fishing contest took place here on Friday in last week between the employ of the Two Sawyers, for prizes kindly given by the new proprietor, Mr. W. Walker; the first being a silver watch, which was won by John Spong, with 12 lb. of fish; the second, a meerscham pipe, which was won by George Chamberlain, with 5 lb. 10 oz. of fish; the third, five shillings, which was won by Joseph Dobbin, with 5 lb. 8 oz. of fish, and the fourth, half-a-crown, was won by Pert Hammerton, with 3 lb. 8 oz. of fish. Richard Moffatt and C. Hennessey, did not weigh in. Head River-Keeper Alfred Thompson, acted as umpire, and the fish were weighed in at the Two Sawyers, in the presence of Mr. A. J. Little and the proprietor. Mr. Walker liberally supplemented the competition with a supper to the competitors on Tuesday evening last, under the presidency of Mr. A. J. Little, under whose auspices a very pleasant and enjoyable evening was spent.

On the 9th inst., Mr. Canton, with J. Spong, eight dozen of dace. On the 12th, Messrs. Walker and Campbell, with Spong, five dozen of roach and dace. On the 13th, Messrs. W. P. Keys and W. Foster, with Spong, five and a half dozen of dace and one bream, 1½ lb. Water high and thick.—W. WALKER.

Teddington.

Joseph Baldwin, in three days, twelve dozen of roach and dace; and Benjamin Stevens, in two days, nine dozen of dace. The Tideway report up to Wednesday concludes, "The water in these districts is rising, but not so much discoloured."

Kingston.

John Johnson, jun., in one day, twelve brace of good perch; and John Johnson, sen., seven and a half dozen of very fine dace. The bank anglers here, and at Surbiton, have been getting some good roach and dace.

East Moulsey.

Charles Davis, in one day, ten dozen of good dace. The bank anglers have been amongst the dace. At the Island Hotel the anglers, in addition, to some fine roach and dace, have taken a tench of 2½ lb. and nine bream.

Sunbury.

Edward Clarke, in one day, one dozen of large roach, two brace of perch, and a barbel of 2½ lb. The bank anglers have done well amongst the roach, dace, and perch.

Shepperton (Docket Point).

James Haslett, in a couple of days, one chub, one bream, and some fine roach and dace legering. A trout was also taken, but returned to the river.

Staines.

Charles Hone, one day, three jack, the largest 11 lb., and another day a brace of jack; John Keene, in five days, twelve chub, the largest 4 lb., four brace of perch, the largest fish 1½ lb., and four dozen of roach and dace; John Keene, jun., in two days, 20 lb. weight of roach and dace.

UPPER THAMES.

The last week's fishing on the Thames for the season 1883-4, over to-morrow (Friday), has been completely ruined by the flooded state of the river induced by last week's rains. At Maidenhead and Cookham on Friday, Saturday and Sunday last some excellent bags of roach and perch were had both by bank anglers and puntmen. At Marlow, Mr. O. Wright, with White as fisherman, has taken two jack, going respectively 5 lb. and 7 lb., 8 lb. of perch, one trout (returned uninjured), and one tench, 2½ lb. The Hurley district has been inundated lately both by water and anglers, Messrs. Crumplen and Harding, with Rockwell, getting some decent perch; Mr. Gherkie, chub and perch; Mr. Berger, 12 lb. of roach, and Mr. Harrison a fine sample also of roach. In the Medmenham waters, Bob Young has captured a fine otter, and will doubtless receive the reward of merit. At Hanley, fish have lately been on the feed, several trout coming to grief, one—an 11-pounder—being taken near Hambleton and returned to the river by C. Atkins in the presence of the lock keeper. J. Harvey, of Henley, with a customer, has had some fine chub, and Parrott, sen. and jun., with patrons, have had chub and jack, the best of the latter going 10½ lb. I have not seen many trout on the move as yet, but when the sun shines on both sides of the hedges I fancy some big things will be done, as so much pains and expense have been gone to in stocking and preserving the various weir pools and likely bits of water.—MARLOW BUZZ.

Sonning.

Water all over the place; about one of the worst seasons for fishing since I have been here. The water comes up, and just as it is getting in order, it rains twelve hours, and the river gets as bad again as ever. A man got some good roach, twelve of 1 lb. each, the largest 1½ lb. Dr. Lewin has still been getting a lot of perch, none of any size. A trout over 4 lb. was caught and placed back again. There will be some very good trout fishing this season. There were over twenty taken within sight of my house last year; there are several to be seen now and again.—WM. HULL.

Goring.

Water now very thick; we have only had it in good order for jack two days during the last fortnight. Monday, two dozen of good roach and one jack; Tuesday (best day), four jack and some good roach, largest jack 5 lb.—JOHN RUSH.

Oxford.

The Oxford Angling Society will hold their second annual dinner under the presidency of the Mayor, A. Wheeler, Esq., who will be supported by the sheriff and other members of the Corporation, together with Mr. Thomas Spreckley, and several well-known members of the London and Riverside Protection Associations. Financially speaking, the society is on a firm basis, the funds in the treasurer's hands, after all outstanding expenses are paid, amounting to about £13 or £14. To-morrow witnesses the demise of another fishing season, and I am glad to say its last declining days have been marked by the capture of three large jack weighing together 45 lb. Perch have been going well; on Thursday, in the Godstone water, Mr. George Ferris bagged twenty, averaging from ½ to ¾ lb. On the 9th in the Cherwell at Kistlington, Mr. Harris, jun., had a jack going 3 lb. In the Thames at Ferry Henksey, Mr. Slater was successful in taking two jack, weighing respectively 15 and 8 lb. By the Long Bridge a waterman passed a beauty of 22 lb., and I am informed by the landlord of the Swan at Rennington that one measuring 33 inches was taken on the previous Sunday. To-day Mr. George Ferris was again amongst the perch, catching eight good ones, two of which went 1 lb. each, and from my friend, Mr. Watts, I learn that he (Mr. W.) had ten of the same species averaging ½ lb. each.—MEDLEY TROUT.

Eynsham.

On Friday, March 7, Mr. Geen and myself caught twenty-nine roach and dace; weight, 13 lb. Rain on the 9th and 10th upset the water till to-day (Thursday). Mr. Geen, in the Windrush, has taken ten chub, the two largest being 4½ lb. and 3½ lb.; bait pith. I have had a nice take of roach to-day (Thursday) with lob worms; largest, 1½ lb., and one chub, 1¾ lb. We shall be out to-morrow (Friday) to finish up the season.—W. B. HOWE.

Datchet.

The fishing season that has just closed has not been very encouraging, owing to the mild, unsettled state of the weather and the water. The river is still very high. J. Hoare, fishing on the 2nd inst., in one hour landed six chub, averaging 2½ lb. each, with pith and brains. He tells me he could have caught a lot more, only he exhausted his stock of bait. He has also had one or two very good takes of roach. I was with a patron on the 8th, the water was very thick; took a jack 4 lb. and had a few roach. I had a beautiful lot of dace and gudgeon in the well of the punt—been nursing them for the day the jack would feed properly. Now I have transferred them to a large hole dug in the garden, for use another day. I went out on Wednesday afternoon. I fished from the bank, to get some more, the only bite I had was with a lovely trout, about 4 lb. He took the smallest bit of paste imaginable, such as one would put on for a bleak.—G. LUMSDEN.

Ancholme District.

We have had a week of variable weather, and as a consequence variable success at the water side. The mornings have generally been cold and wet, whilst

the afternoons have come in bright and sunny. A member of the Lincoln Angling Association caught two good pike last week, weighing respectively 15 and 7 lb. Both were full of spawn, and the latter was returned. These were taken near Five Mile House. The Ancholme season ends on Saturday next, but the river head fishery remains open; as a consequence, visitors speak of coming both from Grimsby and Lincoln. Those that have tried the new water have thus far gone away well satisfied. 2,500 Loch Leven fry go into the beck above this week, making a total of 10,000 turned out this season. No trout fishing has, so far as I am aware of, been done this week, but anglers are looking up the spring flies.—THOMAS FORD, Caistor.

Ballynahinch.

The only gentleman fishing the above water is Mr. R. E. Austice, who had some good sport. On the 27th ult., he killed four salmon, weighing 13½, 12½, 12, and 8½ lb.; on the 1st inst., one, 17½ lb.; and on the 4th, two, 12 and 15 lb. His total for nine days' fishing is twelve salmon, weighing 158 lb. We tried it on the 28th ult., and killed one, 12½ lb.; and again on the 3rd inst., and got one, 10½ lb. We have had cold east winds until Monday, when it changed right west, and mild. In fact, these last two days the sun at mid-day was almost as strong as the month of May. The grass has varied little the whole week, and the waters are in very good order so that, if this weather continues, splendid sport may be expected.—WALTER BLACKADDER.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

Blackwater (Mallow).

This river was not in fishing order from the 19th to the 26th February; on that day Mr. T. S. Pearson killed one fish, 27 lb.; Captain Pearson, one, 19 lb.; Mr. Hobson, one, 12 lb. Since then the following have been taken:—Mr. C. P. Coote, three, 10, 11½, and 14 lb.; Mr. G. A. Hodgson, one, 8½ lb.; Major Brown, one; Captain Pearson, two, 23½ and 26½ lb.; Mr. T. S. Pearson, two, 12½ and 25 lb.; Mr. Tobin, two. Mr. Pearson's fish were all taken on Moycollop water, rented by Captain D'gby, Coleshill Park, Birmingham. On the 5th inst., Mr. John Hanlan, one, 22 lb.; Mr. P. Lane, one, 18 lb.; Mr. D. McCabe, two. Water in splendid order now; and if we have no more rain, there will be great bags made next week.—J. O. HAROLD.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

Chichester.

The last few days of this week have been warm and summerlike. The water is in excellent condition, yet fish are not well on feed. But few anglers have been out, and those few but ill-rewarded for their pains. Most of our jack fishermen have adopted the single-gut paternoster, finding it most successful; and the generality of fish captured are found, on opening, to have taken nothing but small fry, with which the water abounds. During the past two seasons I have not heard of a pike over 6½ lb. in this locality, excepting "break-aways" which are notoriously heavy. A few small bream and roach are daily taken, but nothing noteworthy is to hand at time of writing.—GEORGE F. SALTER.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

The weather the past week has been warm and summer-like and water in excellent condition. Anglers are few and far between, the sport lately being meagre. Small roach and bream may be had by the score. In fact, the river was never so full of small fry as at present. We have plenty of big bream and carp, but too wary to be caught, even night fishing proving unremunerative. "The game is not worth the candle." We shall soon here get a change among the smelt and bass in the harbour, which occasionally give good sport. Some private water is available, so that we can keep our hands in among the trout during the close season.—GEORGE S. SALTER.

Coquet (Weldon Bridge).

Since my last report the weather has been very unfavourable for fishing, and the sport has been anything but good. On the 8th inst. Mr. Barker creeled eight and a half brace; Mr. R. Barker, three brace; Mr. H. Barker, three brace. On the 12th inst. the Rev. Mr. Oliver got ten brace; Mr. Hedley, ten and a half; Mr. Wilkinson, five brace, part with worm and fly, the March brown. At the time I am writing the weather is more settled.—A. GLASS.

[The next six or eight weeks will be the most likely weeks in the year for getting fishing on the Coquet. We can, from personal experience, of his place recommend anglers to stay at Mr. Glass's. Morpeth is only a few miles from Weldon Bridge. Messrs. Hardy, of Alnwick, know the Coquet well, and the flies and tackle to use on it.—ED.]

Dee and Don (Aberdeenshire).

The rod fishing has not improved much since our last report; in fact, on the lower reaches there has been a perceptible fall in it. The sport in the Park, Banochry, and Kincardine O'Neil Districts has declined very much. In the Ballater District the sport when actively prosecuted is very encouraging, but Mr. Smith reports that only a very limited number of the gentlemen have yet arrived at their quarters. Mr. Smith also reports that the lochs now being used are considerably smaller than at the commencement of the season. Our Kincardine O'Neil correspondents inform us that the water for some time has been rather low and clear for good fishing being got in their quarters, and that very few fish appeared to be in the pools till Friday last, when a fresh supply came to hand. The "Gordon" is still heading the list of successful lures. Since Sunday the river has been out of condition in consequence of the heavy fall of rain on Saturday, and on Sunday morning. The sea is rough, and fish are not therefore coming inshore in any numbers. Now that we have plenty of water, a good run may be expected if the wind turns westerly and the weather gets more settled. When the sea is rough and easterly winds prevail, a run of fish is a very exceptional thing indeed. A few fish are being got with the natural minnow. The following reports for last week are to hand:—Ballater District.—Report of Mr. George Smith, saddler and fishing-tackle maker. Balmoral.—Her Majesty's private water, 2 fish, 9 and 10 lb., were landed on Tuesday. Birkhall.—His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales's private water—2 fish, 9 and 10 lb., were landed on Wednesday, by Mr. R. Lundie, keeper. Invercauld Arms Hotel Water.—J. Muller, Esq., Tuesday, 1 fish, 8 lb.; Wednesday, 2 fish, 8 and 9 lb.; Thursday, 1 fish, 11 lb.; Friday, 3 fish, 8, 8, and 9 lb. Monaltrie Water.—Thursday, Colonel Keen, 2 fish, 7 and 7½ lb. Cambus O'May Water.—Crichtley, Esq., Wednesday, 3 fish, 8, 11, and 12 lb. Monaltrie.—Tuesday, J. Harper, 2 fish, 7 and 8 lb.; Robert Clark, 1 fish, 8 lb.; Wednesday, J. Harper, 2 fish, 6 and 7 lb.; Robert Clark, 1 fish, 9 lb.; Thursday, J. Harper, 1 fish, 10 lb. Invercauld Arms Hotel Water.—Monday, of the present week, J. Muller, Esq., 4 fish, 7, 9, 12 and 16 lb. Pannanich Water.—Claud Mackenzie, Esq., 1 fish, 7 lb. Kincardine O'Neil District.—Report of Messrs. Wm. Blacklaws and Son, rod and fishing-tackle makers. Ballogie Water.—Friday, the Hon. David Arbuthnott, 1 fish, 9½ lb.; the Hon. William Arbuthnott, 1 fish, 8 lb.;

Saturday, 2 fish, $9\frac{1}{2}$ and $11\frac{1}{2}$ lb.; J. Mortimer, keeper, Wednesday, 1 fish, 11 lb.; Thursday, 1 fish, 9 lb.; Saturday, 2 fish, 8 and 9 lb. Borrowstone Water.—Walter D. Leslie, Esq., of Dromossie, Saturday, 2 fish, 7 and 9 lb. John Harper, Tuesday, 1 fish, $8\frac{1}{2}$ lb.; Thursday, 3 fish, 7, 7, and $8\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Norton House Water.—Saturday, Wm. Lamond, Esq., 1 fish, $8\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Commonly Water.—J. Scott, keeper, Carlogie, Saturday, 1 fish, 10 lb. On the Woodend Fishery, Major Traherne and Major Gordon landed 5 fine fish during the week, weighing respectively 7, 8, 9, 9, and 10 lb. Cairnton Water.—T. Farley, Esq., landed on Tuesday 1 fish, 10 lb.; Thursday, 2 fish, 10 and 12 lb.; Friday, 4 fish, 8, 9, 11, and 12 lb.; Saturday, 1 fish, 9 lb. Blackhall Upper Water.—Ben. Warrick, Esq., London, Wednesday, 2 fish, 10 and 10 lb.; Thursday, 1 fish, $8\frac{1}{2}$ lb.; Friday, 1 fish, 17 lb.; Saturday, 1 fish, 14 lb. Invercauld Private Water, Braemar.—J. C. Wordie, Esq., Cluny Lodge, Tuesday, 1 fish, 7 lb.; Thursday, 1 fish, 9 lb.; Friday, 4 fish, 9, 9, 13, and 16 lb.—the latter a beautiful, fresh-run fish. Inchmarlo Water.—Monday, T. Barbour, Esq., Nottingham, 2 fish, 10 and 12 lb.; Wednesday, 1 fish, 10 lb. Dr. Wright, Monday, 1 fish, 8 lb.; Friday, 1 fish, 7 lb. Park Water.—Thursday, Kiddell, keeper, 2 fish, 9 and 11 lb.; Saturday, 2 fish, 7 and 8 lb. The Don. Manar Water.—Henry Gordon, Esq., Wednesday, 1 fish, 10 lb. Inverurie Burgh Water (free).—James Nicols, Esq., 1 fish, $9\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Grandholm, a few fish during the week. On Glentanar Water.—Wm. Cunliffe Brooks, Esq., banker and M.P., 3 fish were landed on Monday, 7, 11, and 14 lb.; Tuesday, 4 fish, 6, 7, 9, and 11 lb.; Wednesday, 7 fish, 6, 7, 7, 8, 9, 9, and 12 lb.; Thursday, 5 fish, 6, 9, 10, 12, and 17 lb.; Friday, 7 fish, 7, 8, 9, 9, 10, 14, and 19 lb.; Saturday, 6 fish, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, and 16 lb. On the Aboyne Castle Water.—The Most Noble the Marquis of Huntly, 2 fish, weighing 6 and 10 lb. respectively, were got during the week. On Huntly Lodge Water.—Sir Herbert Lewis landed three fish, ranging from 7 to 15 lb. Carlogie Water.—Saturday, Mr. Hoare, 1 fish, 8 lb. Huntley Arms Hotel Water, Aboyne.—Friday, Colonel Egerton, 1 fish, 8 lb. Huntley Lodge Water, Aboyne.—J. Wason, Esq., Tuesday, 1 fish 10 lb. Drum Water.—Monday, A. Muirhead Aiken, Esq., 1 fish, 10 lb. Keneskie Water.—Friday, W. Hoare, Esq., 2 fish, 7 lb. each. Lower Crathes.—Friday, T. Hoare, Esq., 1 fish, 11 lb. West Durris Water.—Tuesday, A. Adam, keeper to R. S. Hills, Esq., The Parsonage, Banchoy, 1 fish, $7\frac{1}{2}$ lb.; Friday, 1 fish, 8 lb. On Park Water.—Major Carnegie landed 1 fish of 10 lb., on Tuesday of the present week. Dr. Macdonald and party have not been enjoying good sport on the Durris Home Water of late. Wednesday evening.—The spate is almost past now, and fish are taking to the river in good numbers, as is evidenced by the success attending the netting operations. It is only within the last few hours that anything like a run has been apparent. Rod fishing in the lower and middle reaches of the river ought to improve if fish incline to this favourable change for any space of time. Weather cold, and inclined to be showery. Wind of moderate velocity, west-south-west.—W.M.

Thursday forenoon.—Fish are still being got with the net in considerable quantities at the river stations. Direction of wind and condition of weather precisely the same as they were last night. Though considerably smaller, the river is yet somewhat discoloured. Angling prospects on the whole are a good deal brightened.

Dove.

We have had fairly open but rather chilly weather this week, and there is less fly on the surface as a consequence than one might have expected. The minnow seems to have proved the most destructive, especially in the brooks and other tributaries. The Blue and cockwinged duns have killed best of the flies. The dishes have averaged about four or five brace per rod. Grayling go out of season this week, along with other coarse fish, and some of them are already showing indications of readiness to go into spawn. There has been a slight colour in the water all the week, owing to the rain having fallen nearly every night. This has suited bottom fishers, who have been rewarded by excellent catches of roach, dace, chub, and perch, mostly taken with the small red worm. The best sport amongst trout and grayling seems to have been had about Rochester, Tutbury, and downwards.—THE SLODGER.

Eden (Armthwaite).

The last week's salmon fishing here has been good, several gentlemen having good sport. Mr. Carrick and Mr. Rudd each took a fish, one weighing 20 lb., the other 19 lb. On Monday, Mr. Cowan, of Dalston, got one 13 lb. as well; George Ferguson got two in the Cawley water. Captain Rhodes on Tuesday took two, one 22 lb., another 17 lb., at the same place. William Stephenson got one 17 lb. The weather having changed to rain and sleet, the river has been again in flood, but by Saturday we hope the rod will again be in requisition.—SKIDDAM.

Eden (Carlisle).

On Friday, the 7th inst., Mr. E. L. Hough killed a nice spring fish of 18 lb. in the Crosby water, and Mr. W. G. Stubbs one, in the Warwick Hall water. Next day, Mr. R. H. Horrocks landed two on the "Doctor's Flat." This famous salmon cast belongs to the Dean and Chapter of Carlisle on the west side, and to the Earl of Carlisle on the east side, and derives its name from Dr. Graham, the father of Sir Gerald Graham, of El Teb renown, who used to live at the house now called Eden Brows, almost overlooking the river. The Carlisle Angling Association have the fishing on the east side. On the same day, Archdeacon Prescott killed 11 lb. of trout with fly. The river has not been in order for salmon this week, being full of snow; but Mr. Slater managed to basket 30 trout on Wednesday with the fly, chiefly partridge and water-hen hackles. As is always the case when snow is in the water, they took very short, or he would have killed quite twice as many. He thinks he must have pricked 90 trout. The river is a foot higher again to-day, and will scarcely be right before Monday.—SILVER GREY.

Exe (Exeter).

The heavy rains this week have blighted all anglers' hopes, the river having been flooded considerably. Salmon anglers commenced last Saturday; but the wind and weather prevented any good records. One or two salmon were taken at Salmon Pool. Yesterday and to-day we have had a change, and if the clerk of the weather is not capricious again, we shall soon be making up for lost time.—J. A. KELLEY.

Exe (Tiverton).

The river has been very high nearly the while of the week, and is getting into good order. To-day fish have sported very well, and some fair baskets have been taken. Hare's flecks, upright, hailstone, gold twist, and blue upright have taken best.—W. MUDFORD.

Lee (Co. Cork).

The weather has been very much against angling this week, and very few days

have been available. Snow, sleet, and rain, with occasionally a severe storm, have been the prevailing condition, and, as I now write, it is blowing hard with a steady downpour. Towards the end of last week there were a few days upon which salmon took freely, and very good sport was realised. Mr. Beamish landed a fine springer of 18 lb., and Major Broderick had five, two of 11 lb. each. Captain Vansittart and party, who have rented Sir Oriel Forster's fishing at Fargus, have been very successful up to the present; and Colonel Hawke, who fishes above Carrigrohilly, has had some good sport. Mr. Geo. Haynes landed two on the 9th inst., and on the same day Mr. Mat Manning had two, and Mr. R. Smith one.—ANGLER.

Leicester.

Fishing during the past few days has been very quiet, and the close season will be generally welcomed, as several of the species are so full of spawn that with few exceptions the sport lately has been of the most moderate character. The best has been had at the brook at Aylestone amongst the chub, and several nice fish up to 3 lb. have been caught with pith. These afforded some really capital sport. A large number of pike have been seen working to the side, and it has required a lot of the keeper's time to take care of them. Perch are also in about the same condition, so that at the preserved waters just now every attention is required to keep the fish poachers at a distance. Trout fishing can scarcely be said to have commenced as yet, and those anglers who have been out have had a poor time of it, only an odd brace or two being shown. The weather on Thursday was dull and cold, and there is plenty of water in the rivers and brooks.—ALERT.

Lugg and Arrow.

The streams of this part are now in good state for bottom fishing, the water being too much coloured for the fly; but if the weather will keep fine a few days longer, we may expect to see fly fishing in full swing again. Some very good fish were taken with the worm in the Lugg on Saturday. A small lot were taken in the Arrow the same day. Above the station on Monday a very good dish of trout were taken with the worm. Some good sport was had in the Arrow on Tuesday with the worm, when a basket of 6 lb. was landed. A nice lot were taken by the Bromyard line on Wednesday with the same bait. A very nice lot of trout were taken in the Earlsland water this week with the worm. There has been but little doing in the Shobden district yet. The Pinsley is now getting clear, and by the end of the week will be in good fly fishing order. A few very nice trout were landed on Monday with the worm. A nice dish were caught on Wednesday with the same bait. The Boddendam waters have had but few visitors this week. A few fish have been landed in the Ivington district this week with the worm.

Ouse (Huntingdon).

The rain which fell on Monday and Tuesday has rendered the water unfishable, it being very much coloured, but (weather permitting) it will be in condition at the beginning of next week. On the 2nd, one gentleman took two jack, weighing about 5 lb. I took one on the same day, about $4\frac{1}{2}$ lb., but nothing has been done since. It is to be hoped that all anglers will make the best use of their time as regards fishing, because the time is drawing close. The weather is most favourable, and if it continues a few more jack may be taken, although they are in their spawning beds. On the 2nd, I saw several very large ones lying in about 2 feet of water, which is now the season for them to be in.—H. ROUT.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

The fishing season has ended in a very bad state, the water being very much out of condition, owing to the rain which has fallen this last week; but let us hope it will commence with a good prospect next season. The jack are lying very plentifully alongside of the water on the shilows, which are their spawning beds. Great numbers are seen daily. Nothing has been done within the last fortnight. I and a friend were out to-day, 13th, but could do no good.—H. ROUT, keeper.

Ouse (Littleport).

As I for one do not care to be obliged to pick my words, and as I occasionally make use of what you are pleased to call "angling slang," which slang I have borrowed from men you frequently shake hands with, I shall turn it up. This is my last report to FISHING GAZETTE. As I had no time last Thursday, I jot down the best takes for the past fortnight. March 2nd, three London anglers $13\frac{1}{2}$ lb., 9 lb. and $8\frac{1}{2}$ lb. roach, respectively; March 4th, Mr. H. Hailstone, Bottisham, 8 lb. roach and perch; Messrs. R. and A. T. Ellis, Cambridge, 16 lb. nice roach and silver bream, largest roach 14 oz., largest silver bream 1 lb. $3\frac{1}{2}$ oz.; Mr. A. Lemaire, Newmarket, $13\frac{1}{2}$ lb. splendid roach, three largest 1 lb. $3\frac{1}{2}$ oz., 1 lb. and $15\frac{1}{2}$ oz.; Mr. J. Lancaster, Newmarket, $7\frac{1}{2}$ lb., largest 15 oz.; March 7th, Mr. W. Rowton, Cambridge, $11\frac{1}{2}$ lb. good roach, largest $18\frac{1}{2}$ oz.; Mr. H. Lee, Cambridge, 10 lb.; Mr. A. Pace, Newmarket, $9\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.; Mr. J. Goater, Newmarket, 6 lbs.; Messrs. Dennis and Greaves, Newmarket, 9 lb.; Messrs. Ingram and Mansfield, Cambridge, 9 lb.; a gentleman from Ely, 12 good Roach going 6 lb.; Mr. R. Ellis, Cambridge, 8 lb.; Mr. W. Rashworth, West Ham, 25 lb. nice roach; March 8th, Mr. Hailstone, Bottisham, 22 lb.; a gentleman from Ely 16 lb., and Mr. T. Allpress, Ely, $7\frac{1}{2}$ lb. in two hours, all good roach; March 13th, Mr. W. Rushworth, West Ham, 14 lb. roach, largest 1 lb. $10\frac{1}{2}$ oz.; Mr. W. Rowton, Cambridge, 12 lb. nice roach; Messrs. A. Pace and J. Goaten, Newmarket, 14 lb. nice roach.—CHARLIE SOUTH.

Pickering (North-East Yorkshire).

During the past fortnight many baskets of fine fish, both trout and grayling, have been got, of the latter sixteen in number, average about $\frac{3}{4}$ lb., is the best we have seen, although we hear of another of nine fish weighing 16 lb., out of a private water. The best basket of trout we have seen was eight fish, about 7 lb., killed with minnow; also another lot, smaller, fifteen caught with fly in an hour and a half. Notices have been published all over this district of the adoption and enforcement of a scale of license duties, improved by the Yorkshire Fishery Board, on all nets used for the taking or killing of trout, and also on night lines. It is a notorious fact that this district has suffered severely for years past, both from nets and night lines. The former is in hands of people who ought to know better, but whose only gratification appears to be a morbid love of killing, and a delight in spoiling the sport of their poorer neighbours who are content to angle in a legitimate and fair way.—NORTH EAST.

Severn (Shrewsbury).

A friend and pupil of mine, Mr. R. W. Hughes, of Frankwell, this afternoon took a very fine perch of $2\frac{1}{2}$ lb. weight, fishing with a worm, a very good finish before the close of the season. The river here is rather discoloured, but lower

ing, and will be soon, I hope, in grand condition for spinning for trout.—A SEVERN GRAYLING.

[Received too late last week for insertion.—ED.]

Through the river being high no salmon have been taken in this district since my last report; but I am glad to say it is now getting into fair angling condition, especially for spinning. A railway servant, while spinning near the railway bridge, on Wednesday, was rewarded with a grand trout, which turned the scale at $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. The river watcher, I hear, on Thursday last caught two men netting in the Borough, and a prosecution will be the result; the result will settle for all times the doubt which several entertain, as to the rights of the riparian owners to prohibit netting opposite their lands. Several very good trout have been taken with the nets during the week. A novice, while fishing in the cricket field, in a hole which another angler had been baiting for several days, hooked and landed, after a good fight, the largest perch which has been taken about this part for many years, it turned the scale at $2\frac{3}{4}$ lb. and was in splendid condition. I hear of a man who had a good basket of fish which had been taken with the nets; among the lot were trout, grayling, perch, and rough fish. The Angling Society's weekly meetings commenced on Thursday last. New members are joining fast, and the club has a very prosperous career before them.—SEVEN SALMON.

Tay (Perth).

The heavy fall of snow the past week has almost put a stop to angling. Most of the rivers, although not too high for angling, were so dirty the fish could not see the fly. Some good fish have been killed this last week.—S. D. MALLOCH.

Teme (Ludlow).

This stream has reached very nearly its usual level once again, but is still considerably coloured. The tributaries have, with the exception of one favourite stream, all gone down, but are still to a certain extent muddy. Looking from the back walks round Ludlow Castle, this morning (Wednesday), I could not discern one drop of water left on the meadows from the late floods. The Teme was quietly flowing down the Castle Pound to the New Bridge—so quiet, that you could not see a ripple or a movement on the water. The exception I alluded to above was the Clun. Some gentlemen had made great preparations for a day's fishing in that stream on Tuesday, but on Monday night a most extraordinary and unexpected flush of water came down the stream, completely flooding it. The gentlemen were acquainted with the state of the water, and had to postpone their long looked-for visit and return back to Leamington. A riparian owner informed me that these unexpected flushes of water in the Clun are the result of the deep snow being rapidly melted by the powerful rays of the sun on the hills, and great damage ere now has resulted from the sudden melting of the snow. There is nothing doing up the Leintwardine Club waters or in the Ledwyche. A few fish have been caught in the Ouy, and also in the Teme in the Ashford quarter.—S. LUDLOW.

Teme (Tenbury).

The water of this part is still slightly coloured, but is now going down to its proper level. If the weather keeps fine we may expect some good fly fishing in the district, as all the streams are now well filled with trout in splendid condition. A gent, fishing near the bridge on Friday, caught some very good trout with the worm. Another gent landed two brace of very fine trout on Saturday with the worm below the bridge. On Monday a very good dish of fish were taken with the worm. A nice lot of fish were taken near the Little Hereford Bridge, on Tuesday, with the worm. Some very good fish were taken above the Bridge, on Wednesday, with the same bait. The Kyr was visited on Saturday, when some very good samples of trout were landed with the worm. The water is still coloured, but the fish bite freely at the worm. The Rea and Ledwyche are both high and coloured, and but little doing in them as yet. There have been some fine grayling taken in the water, but, being about to spawn, were immediately put back again.

Trent (Newark).

I forgot to mention in my last week's report the capture (on the last day of the pike season in the Newark and Muskham Fishery, by Mr. J. Sims) of a pike nearly 16 lb. weight. Total length of fish, 3 feet $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches (rather a long fish that for its weight, I think). Mr. Sims had been fishing most of the afternoon without any particular success, and was thinking of packing up and going home when the idea struck him that he might as well have another throw, and the fish mentioned above was the result. The water has been very high and very much discoloured most of the week, consequently sport has not been very brilliant for the wind up of the season. In fact, I have heard of scarcely anybody being out. I went yesterday afternoon for a farewell spin or two, and I found the water at least three feet too high, and it was very much charged with colour. I was "Monarch of all I surveyed," for I did not see the shadow of a rod except my own, and the weather was simply splendid. In a quiet corner I managed to find a nice chub of $2\frac{1}{2}$ lb. with a bunch of brandings for bait, and with this exception the venture was a blank. I have heard of a splendid roach being weighed in at the club, last week I think. Weight, 1 lb. $11\frac{1}{2}$ oz. To-morrow (Friday) is the last day of the season 1883-4. The water is not in very good condition, it has been raining most of to-day, so I should suppose the river will not be very largely attended. So I must now wind up my spare line, put away my tackle, and in the capacity of river reporter, say farewell until next June.—THE TRENT OTTER.

Trent (Nottingham).

The past has been a remarkably fine week for angling pursuits, and members of the various piscatorial societies have been unusually busy, hoping successfully to wind up what has been a thoroughly enjoyable winter term. Many scores of anglers visited the lower reaches of the river on the 8th and 9th, and returned in the evening, heavily laden with fish. By what means, however, they were captured, I am not in a position to state. Certainly, big bags were the rule and not the exception, and whole hosts of friends assembled outside the Midland Station to congratulate them on their fortune. On the 8th, three Nottingham gentlemen patronised the Willington length, and although the weather was rainy, one of the number took a grand lot of dace; and there was a chub of 3 lb. $3\frac{1}{2}$ oz. The same length on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday yielded excellent baskets of dace and roach, two or three of the latter species weighing above 1 lb. 7 oz. each. The members of the St. George's Association celebrate their half-yearly dinner at the Ram Hotel, Nottingham, on Wednesday evening next.—THE MAN AT THE CLUBS.

Wharfe (Yorkshire).

The weather has been beautiful during the past week, and the river has got into nice order for fly fishing. The opening day in the Otley Club water is March 15th this season, instead of being the 1st April, as heretofore. So far,

I have seen very few natural flies upon the water; but should the present warm weather continue, I have no doubt that the March brown, early brown, and blue dun will soon put in their appearance. There have been no catches worthy of record this week, beyond a nice dish which I heard had been taken with fly in the Addingham length.—FRANCIS M. WALBRAN.

Yare (Norwich).

Convictions for illegal netting have fortunately occupied a prominent place in this part during the past few days, whilst genuine sport has been slow and uncertain. The poachers have been at work again, notwithstanding the by-laws recently passed by the conservators of Norfolk and Suffolk (abolishing drag netting altogether) and has resulted in the conviction of two men for illegal netting in the Waveney. They were sentenced to a fine of £10 or two months' imprisonment, and as the money was not forthcoming these netting gentlemen are suffering durance vile in Norwich Castle. Another conviction at Smallburgh deserves the attention of persons interested in angling. From the report it appears that E. Boulton, Esq., who claims to own all the rights to fish on Heigham Sounds, engaged the celebrated Barbers and others (whose experience in netting is undoubted) to net his waters with a 100 yard net, but as the mesh did not measure 3 inches from knot to knot, Clare, the river watcher, very rightly proceeded against them for illegal netting, and the magistrates in this instance took a right view of the case and convicted all (except a boy), imposing a fine of 5s. and costs on each defendant. I believe Mr. Boulton stated that he required some bait, but it's quite a new idea to me that bait should be caught thus, and perhaps conveyed to London or elsewhere in ton lots (dead). And to come to my report of the river for the past week. I am told some good roach have been taken, and also that the bream are on the move, and may be had in shallow water. The river has been for a long time too low and clear for pike fishing; consequently very few have attempted their capture; several minor catches are reported. I was lucky enough last Friday to catch three weighing respectively 8, 4, and 3 lb. The season may be said to have closed now, though one or two parties are out for a final effort to-day; the love of angling is so very strong in some that no opportunity ever seems to be missed. The past season on a whole compares very favourably with other years. This applies to private waters, where, although no extraordinary fish have been chronicled, yet, taken all round, the fish have shown an improvement in size. In the river this is the reverse, as sport has been much below the average, and the number of sportsmen very much less than usual, proving that sport was not to be had, or the fact that the owners of private waters have been unusually generous and kind to the brethren of the rod this winter, which I think a wise course on their part, as it will avoid all questions of rights and privileges from the respectable portion of the community.—ROBERT MOLL.

A fine specimen of the trout (*Salmo fario*) was taken with a dace yesterday (Wednesday) whilst a man was pike fishing at Thorpe, near Norwich, it weighing nearly 5 lb. and gave its captor excellent sport. This is the third instance lately, and we hope they may become more numerous. Mr. T. E. Gum has purchased the fish for preservation, and will be pleased to show to anyone who may desire to see it.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

- A. JOSS.—The "Green-eyed Monster" would be a better name for one who makes an anonymous attack on Messrs. Jardine, Sachs, &c., because they have had big takes.
- RAVEN.—The New River Company do not permit fishing in their waters without leave, i.e., by ticket, which is very difficult to get.
- J. W. F. A.—You should dress the line as described by Major Treherne in a letter in a recent number of the GAZETTE.
- F. ROBINS, Regent's Park.—Mr. Jackson's is the nearest preserve to Angel Road, and Mr. Ford's to Park Station. You can fish at both places by payment of 1s. or 2s. 6d. for pike per day. We do not know how long they fence their water, but presume from March 15th to June 15.
- UNUS QUI FAVOREM ROGAT.—Write for particulars to Mr. Baker, of the Red Lion Hotel, Farningham, Kent.
- NATHAN ATHERTON (Winsford).—The fish you send is a fine dace.
- H. F. (Crescent Angling Society).—We should say it was clear enough that the intention of your club's bye-law is that a member who has won a prize of a guinea or upwards in any match is to carry a penalty at the rate of $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. for each guinea in the next competition, which is not a pegged-down affair; but a vote of the majority of the members would settle the matter at once.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

GREAT YARMOUTH PISCATORIAL.

SIR,—On my bringing the subject of J. B.'s letter to the notice of our members on Monday, Dr. Mitchell, our president, proposed to do so, and being informed he has done so and explained the matter, there is no necessity for me to enter into details.

I am only too pleased to inform you that the Piscatorials and Bure Preservation Society's are not quite asleep over the case, but fully awake to the anxiousness of the angling public, as the act of the Preservation Society at Smallburgh Petty Sessions, on Tuesday, in successfully prosecuting the netting case of Heyham Loinds, and getting each one summoned and convicted, will prove to every anglers satisfaction that the waters are carefully watched and illegal acts put to. This one on Tuesday will, we all trust, prove a wholesome lesson to all netters, whether here or elsewhere, and which which I have no doubt the final decision of the judges will do very shortly to the so-called riparian owners.—J. LARK, hon. sec.

HEIGHAM SOUNDS.

SIR,—I am surprised to see in the GAZETTE of the 8th that in the "Heigham Sounds Case" there was a doubt about the fish (whether salt or fresh water). I have no doubt you are aware they are the latter. More especially a first-class place for splendid rudd. I had the pleasure last summer of taking a London gentleman to a favourite spot of mine in Kendal Dike, at the entrance to the Sound, and he caught some beauties. He appeared both surprised and delighted.

As to 13 tides in the year, there are, I believe, two in about 25 hours, corresponding to those in the adjacent German Ocean.—I am, &c.,
Martham.
ALF. ROSEKILLY.

MR. KELSON'S ARTICLES.

SIR,—Salmon fishermen are extremely indebted to Mr. Kelson for his articles, and if it is not giving him too much trouble—as he has kindly consented to reply to inquiries—I should be greatly obliged if he would inform me in your next number what make of salmon lines he is alluding to when he gives the numbers in “A Chat,” in the FISHING GAZETTE, December 22nd last; and also where they can be procured?—I am, &c.,
JOHN HOTCHKIS.
Llanstephan, Builth.

[I alluded, in “The Chat,” to No. 30 double-tapered salmon lines, 42 to 45 yards in length. Nos. 25, 30, and 35 lines (double-tapered) are the same, I believe, everywhere in size, but they vary in weight and manufacture. See FISHING GAZETTE, February 16th, and also that of March 8th. In the former my views upon this subject were explained; but in answering the second question of your correspondent, I should refer him to my remarks in the latter edition. P.S.—The numbering of salmon lines, as a rule, varies considerably.—GEO. M. KELSON.]

GOSSAMER SILK FOR FLY-TYING.

SIR,—Please give address where I can obtain the “gossamer silk” for dressing salmon flies, alluded to in your last issue by Mr. G. M. Kelson, in his article on “Angling for Salmon.”—I am, &c.,
EASTERN.

[This silk is sold retail by Mr. Aldred, 258, Oxford Street, and wholesale by Messrs Pearsall and Co., Cheapside.

If “Eastern” has not used it before, he will find it easy enough to wax by passing it twice over the fly-maker’s peg, thus, having four strands for the purpose.

It should be used double for tying on the gut. Claret colour is best.—GEO. M. KELSON.]

MR. KELSON'S ARTICLES.

SIR,—Availing myself of Mr. Kelson’s courtesy in answering questions upon his articles in the GAZETTE, I trust you will allow me a little bit of your valuable space, in which I can ask him further about the “governor cast,” as published in your issue of Feb. 16.

I have been a salmon fisher for some time, but I have never seen this cast; and from Mr. Kelson’s short description, I cannot understand the *modus operandi*, as to the stake behind the fisherman. Is the fly fastened to the indiarubber bands, and if so, by what means is it loosed from them and propelled forward? There is one salmon pool I frequently fish where very long casting is necessary, and from the nature of the ground this “governor cast” would be exactly adapted to it; therefore, I shall be very grateful for any information. And when a fisherman of Mr. Kelson’s ability will give us a wrinkle, it is our own fault if we neglect to profit by every word through our own carelessness. This must be my excuse for troubling. I should much like to know more of the indiarubber bands used, and the length of the line which may be thrown by this cast. In fact, I shall be grateful for any particulars. Is a loaded fly necessary for this cast?—I am, &c.,
Shrewsbury, March 6.

CASTLECONNELL ROD

[The fly is looped through the elastic band. It does not penetrate the indiarubber, and the band is stretched and broken when the fly is propelled. Without reference, I am under the impression I explained that when the angler had assumed the position as illustrated, the cast was to be made in one motion, dropping the point of the rod still lower to get the line in swing. I have nothing to guide me to state what size or thickness the bands should be; two or three minutes’ practice would determine this if the rod were handled by a salmon fisherman. These ordinary brown elastic bands are sold by stationers. Yes, a loaded fly is necessary; and these flies are made by Mr. Aldred, 258, Oxford Street.—GEORGE M. KELSON.]

FISH IN PARK LAKES.

SIR,—I am rather at a loss to understand what drift or motive Mr. Woolfall pretends to have in insinuating in his letter of Feb. 26th that I conjectured that the curator of the Liverpool Lakes intended to give tench and perch in exchange for small roach, and further writes that the curator informed him (Mr. Woolfall) that the statement was passed by the Birmingham Parks Committee. If Mr. Woolfall will have the kindness to peruse the *Liverpool Post*, of Feb. 5th, he will probably be satisfied with the accuracy of my letter in the FISHING GAZETTE, where he will find that the resolution was first adopted and then confirmed by the Birkenhead Parks Committee, at their usual weekly meeting. My letter was not sent for the purpose of a controversy, but for general information. If Mr. Woolfall will scan the columns of the *Weekly Post*, of Saturday last, he will find a true report, not easily digested. The method of placing trout in their illegitimate watery quarters, which are provided at the expense of the ratepayers, for the benefit of which are anglers, is suggestive of stirring the fish; for in such a place as the Sefton Lake they have no power to resist a fly or decoy. I happened to see some of the yearlings placed in the Sefton Lake, and they were unquestionably a vigorous, healthy lot, especially the Lough Neagh specimen. If the hon. sec. of the Liverpool Angling Association is an authority, why not favour the anglers residing in the Everton, Kirkdale, Walton, and Bootle districts with some fishable accommodation? At Stanley Park, the Boat House Lake, which not long since was thoroughly drained and cleaned, would be an excellent water for angling propensities; and if the committee are contemplating the lease of a large tract of water near Liverpool, so as to be accessible for an afternoon’s fishing, perhaps they would consider the proposition to oblige anglers with day tickets, if not already suggested.—I am, &c.,
H. OLIVER.
Liverpool, March 1.

FISH IN PARK LAKES.

SIR,—Referring to your issue of the 23rd ult. wherein appeared a letter subscribed to by Mr. H. Oliver, and to your succeeding issue of the 1st inst., which contained a reply from Mr. R. Woolfall, I may be allowed to observe that as the former resides in Liverpool he can have no interest in the exchange of fish, so far as any sympathy with Birkenhead anglers go, and to be told that if he assumes that tench and perch are intended to be given for small roach he is grievously mistaken. It appears to me to be an opinion both hastily formed and gratuitously offered, and leads me to ask if Mr. Woolfall might not also be grievously mistaken if he imagined that fish from the Birkenhead (not Birmingham) Park Lakes could be bad for the asking. I am inclined to think that Mr. Oliver’s contribution to your valuable pages entitles him to some consideration, as the information would no doubt be interesting to anglers generally.

The resolution as to the exchange of fish, I am in a position to say, was not passed under a wrong impression, but rather the contrary; for certain gentle-

men who fish in the park lakes here, and are also members of, and hold office in, the Birkenhead Anglers Association, took the initiative, and waited upon the members of the parks committee, and explained that, to allow fish to be taken indiscriminately, would simply render fishing in our lakes impracticable. It is a boon which has been conferred upon ratepayers here since the year 1858, and you can well understand that we considered it a threatened injustice, the mere mention of having to part with our fish, which cannot be very numerous, since the lakes have never been re-stocked.

To have expected an equivalent for fish taken from us would be but natural when we are informed of the grand tench taken from Newsham Park Lakes, and the vast quantity of fish in the Sefton Park Lakes, all in Liverpool. Since the association was formed here its numbers are being constantly augmented, and we anticipate many of our members becoming ticket-holders in the park. I observe further in Mr. Woolfall’s letter that one of the recommendations (No. 4) of his committee has proved a complete success, as the curator has been “given full power to expend all the money the fishing tickets bring in in procuring, by purchase or otherwise, fish of various kinds to put in the lakes.” Much as anglers will appreciate the success attending such efforts, still I am pleased to find that attempts to improve the fishing in the Liverpool lakes at the expense of ours have signally failed, and that the “otherwise” would not take, and also that parties who stock lakes by purchase will have an opportunity of doing a line in Liverpool.—I am, &c.,
ROBERT EDWARDS,
Hon. Sec., The Birkenhead Anglers’ Association.

Old Post Office Hotel, Birkenhead,
5th March.

JUVENILE DEPRAVITY.

SIR,—On the 10th instant I was fishing the river Witham, at Bardney, Lincolnshire. I caught a baby jack, about 3 oz., with worm, and I had to kill it to get my tackle back. When I opened his stomach, I found two small roach, about 1½ in. long; and two small carp, about ½ oz. each. We had put two lots of carp in the river, at the same place, two days before, and they must have been some of them, as there were none in the river previously.—I am, &c.,
ROBERT HUNT.
Bredbury, Stockport.

“I. C. U.” AND THE OLD RIVER.

SIR,—Having seen in your GAZETTE “I. C. U.’s” par concerning supposed doings in the backwater behind Ham Island, Old Windsor, I immediately wrote to the lock keeper, and now send you his replies. I rather think “I. C. U.” sees too much, and chances a little, which is a pity. If he has any grounds for suspicion at any time, he should write straight to me, whoever he is.—I am, &c.,
HENRY W. ETHERIDGE.
Thames Conservancy, Superintendent’s Office, Reading,

March 3.

[ANSWER TO MY FIRST LETTER.]

SIR,—In answer to your letter of this morning I went down the Old River, and examined it all the way down. All I found was a green punt belonging to Mr. Simpson, and a brown varnished one, all tied to a ryepeck, with no name—apparently a private gentleman’s by the look of her. It is not an old one, and there is a California punt moored just above the tumbling bay that belongs to two workmen, that is there day and night, with the exception of a few hours on Saturdays and Sundays, and then it is there again before the closing of fishing hours. I should think if the gentleman that had the paragraph put in the paper would say what colour the punt is, and what sort, I may be able to find it. I failed to find a punt or boat as the gentleman described in the Fleet.—I am, &c.,
Old Windsor Lock.
Feb. 17.
W. BLACKWELL, Lock Keeper.

[ANSWER TO SECOND LETTER.]

SIR,—I have watched the Old River as much as possible, and have boarded fishing punts from time to time; but have never found anything to lead me to suspect any illegal fishing going on: but I will continue to watch, and will report anything I see.—I am, &c.,
Old Windsor Lock.
March 1.
W. BLACKWELL, Lock Keeper.

HOW TO GET FLIES ON FINE GUT.

SIR,—I, in common with many of my provincial fly-fisher friends, have to thank you for telling us where to obtain most excellent and cheap, fine gut casting-lines; but we shall be still further obliged to you if you can inform us where we can purchase really satisfactorily made flies, tied on similar gut to these collars? We find such unobtainable from some of our best local fly-tiers.—I am, &c.,
GOSSAMER.

Kirkdale, Liverpool.

“Gossamer” should do as we do—viz, either use flies on Mr. Hill’s eyed hooks (made by Messrs. Hutchinson, of Kendal), or else supply gossamer gut to any particular fly-tyer whose flies we want. This entirely obviates this great difficulty of getting flies tied on fine gut.—ED.]

NEW ZEALAND TROUT EATEN IN ENGLAND.

SIR,—Early this year the s.s. *Ionie* arrived in London from New Zealand with a novel importation, being a dish of fine trout caught with the fly by the chief engineer of the above-named ship. The captain, knowing the writer’s deep interest in angling and all connected with fish culture, brought them to Liverpool. I had the pleasure of showing them to some of my brother anglers. The largest one was about 1½ lb., beautifully marked and finely shaped, pig-backed, small head, and indeed the finest shaped trout I have seen for twenty-five years; the flesh was quite pink, and a great delicacy at the breakfast table. I hope the good ship will arrive in London in May again, and I have invited this veteran fly-fisher to join me at the water rented by the Liverpool Angling Association, near Ruabon.—I am, &c.,
Liverpool.
JOHN KINNA.

GEORGE JAMES EATON, of Starkholmes, Matlock-Bath, Derbyshire, respectfully invites Noblemen and Gentlemen to try his standard FLIES for the present season. No flies sent or made up but what he himself has proved sure killers. A trial is all that is required, from gentlemen who can fish, to prove whether they may be genuine or not. Patronised by some of the best fishermen of the day. All flies dressed on the best Kendal hooks. Prices: Point Flies, 2s. 6d. per Dozen; Dropper Flies, 2s. per Dozen. Orders punctually attended to.—(ADVT.)

NOTES AND QUERIES.

THE HABITS OF THE HERRING.

The *Scottsman* says:—H.M.S. *Fackal*, Commander Prickett, with Professor Cossar Ewart, Edinburgh University, convener of the Scientific Investigation Committee of the Board of Fisheries, was last week on the banks of Mallastra, when some interesting investigations were made into the nature of the sea bottom, and spawn deposited on this famous herring-bed. The banks were dredged over from a depth of eight to twenty-two fathoms. At a depth

of eight to eleven fathoms the bottom was composed of clean gravel, with very little sea-weed; beyond the eleven fathoms, clay, mud, and shell. On the stones lifted by the dredge portions of herring spawn were found firmly attached to the surface of the stones in different stages of development; the more advanced man festing, in live'y action, the embryo herring. Spawn was also taken from the living herring and placed on glasses in hatching boxes; and these also showed the eggs in progress of development. The information obtained by Professor Cossar Ewart is entirely new to science, and will be of the greatest importance in throwing light upon a hitherto but imperfectly understood question in natural history. For the first time it was discovered how the herring spawns and how the roe is fertilised.



THOMAS ALDRED, FISHING ROD & TACKLE MAKER

To their Royal Highnesses the PRINCE and PRINCESS OF WALES;
H.I.M. (late) NAPOLEON III. and EMPRESS of the FRENCH;
and KING of the BELGIANS, and principal Crowned Heads of Europe.

PRIZE MEDAL, 1851.

Being one of two medals granted for fishing tackle out of 26 exhibitors (vide Juries' Reports).

Also holder of FIVE other Prize Medals and Gold Snuff-box, mounted with brilliants, presented by Napoleon III. and Original and Sole Maker of the celebrated THREE-PIECE GLUED UP TRIANGULAR SALMON TROUT, AND SPINNING RODS, as recommended by Mr. G. M. KELSON.

RODS and TACKLE suitable for all parts of the World. Wholesale, retail, and for exportation.

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Beware of Spurious Imitations.

Manufacturers are now producing inferior imitations of

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Provincial anglers may in all cases ensure on application equal consideration and satisfaction from the Manufacturers and Patentees—

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THE NEW ROD, LINE, AND REEL.

The New Steel Centred Fly Rod is rapidly becoming general, mainly through personal recommendation. Every Fly-fisher using one commends it to others. See "Forest and Stream," FISHING GAZETTE, &c., &c. This rod in use is as far removed from an all-wood weapon as is the modern six-shooter from an ancient horse-pistol.

Descriptive priced list free.

The Centre Fitting Winch (Patent) detachable, is not only an advance on all existing side-fixed reels in simplicity of design and make, but is so light and convenient in its central position that its enormous success fails to surprise the habitual user.

Foster's Acme Lines have been more strongly recommended by the leading living authorities than those of any other firm. They are the most scientifically constructed Fly and Spinning Lines ever introduced to the angling public. Vide the "Field" and the entire British Sporting Press. Samples per Post, 2 stamps, with Pamphlet. No Fancy Prices. Five per Cent off for Cash with Order. All Goods sent Carriage and Post Paid.

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ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Grand Variety ENTERTAINMENT at 3 Daily. Specially arranged for Ladies and children. Admission 1s.

ROYAL AQUARIUM.—At Three Daily.

—The artistes engaged are selected from the best in Europe, and consist of Master WALTER and Miss Emily DELEVANTI, the Rajade Troupe (Les Soldats Grotesques) Dexter (Vocalist) Herr Reinhardt (the eminent modeller from Berlin) Adele and Elise (double trapeze) Francois de Blanche, Marie Gilchrist, &c.

ROYAL AQUARIUM.—The Celebrated Henry and Walter Wardrop in their musical absurdity, entitled "WHICH IS BROWN?"

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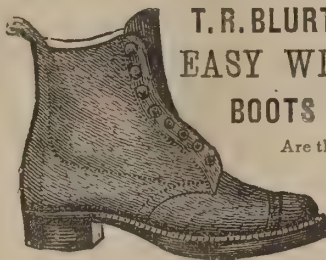
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The Fishing Gazette.

SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 1884.

PISCATORIAL SCRAPS.

By I. C. U.

THE close season is here, and piscatorial newspapers will, or will not, be as dull—well, as dull as dull can be; for what on earth can a man write about to a fishing paper when there is no fishing? We shall see, and quickly. Speaking for myself, I am likely to have anything but a dull time of it; and I rather fancy I shall be compelled to make it a trifle—lively, I was going to say, but I mean interesting—for some of my best friends. Be that as it may, my Editor expects me to do my duty during the close season, and therefore I must proceed to do it.

In my "Scraps" of December 15th I gave a brief account of two days' chub-fishing which I enjoyed with a friend, who is a practical master of the economical and cleanly use of pith and brains, and of skilfully capturing the fish so sought for. On that occasion he devoted himself to coaching and attending on me, and the result was one fish in two days, notwithstanding the advantages of being so attended, and of fishing in a chub river strictly preserved.

I have now to notice a day's chub-fishing, which, to do justice to, would require a lengthy article; and, as it would be a pleasure for me to write, I have no doubt I could make it both readable and instructive; but how am I, in two or three short paragraphs, to convey even a faint idea of the twelve miles of river in which we were free to work our will? Where is it? Whose is it? What fish are in it? How can we get an order? are only a few of the questions which I would anticipate were I not "cabin'd, cribb'd, confin'd," and "bound in" to "Scraps."

What chub fisher, worthy of the name, finding himself beside a river which rushes and tumbles through a mill, and then at racing speed hastens on between high banks which are fully clad with pollard tree and overhanging bough, with here and there a turn so sharp as exacts a portion of the stream to form an eddy which quietly undermines the bank to make homes for chub, but has felt a keen sensation and a now-or-never sort of feeling? With what haste, yet carefully, he puts his sixteen-foot cane with lightest top together, and through its rings he runs the finest twist in such a jerky manner as plainly shows that there's excitement in the veins, and that care is needed to tie the flimsy silk to the fine gut line which has been previously shot for a medium-sized cork float. A triangle hook well covered with a length of pith completes the lure with which he hopes to fill the bag.

Under yon bough (I see it now) where the water eddies round in an unmistakably chubby fashion, has been cast a taste of the seldom-refused brains, and as it twirls and sinks the line is cast well out into the stream, and while travelling down it is gently drawn to the eddy where our hopes are centred for the first fish. Just a second's rest, as if on purpose to show more plainly the unmistakable, yet slight, preliminary quiver which almost

invariably precedes the down-and-away take of a chub. "Swish!" replied the rod in answer to the orthodox out-and-down strike, and then followed a tough battle, with chance for the fish of entanglement in boughs and roots beneath, and trees above, or a breakage of the flimsy tackle. The fight was a long one; but the victim was ours, and a 4 lb. 4 oz. chub fully justified the suggestion (not I C. U's.) that we should wet him. We did, and ten others during the day.

Captain Etheridge's letter, headed "I. C. U. and the Old River," is the reverse of complimentary to the writer of these Scraps, and, put what interpretation I may on his words, I am compelled to come to the conclusion that his effort would have been in far better taste had he—as he had an undoubted right to do—asked for proofs of my statements, instead of writing:—"I. C. U." sees too much, and chances a little, which is a pity." I feel no inclination to say, "You are another," or to resent the pity of one who has proved himself over and over again a good friend to anglers and a determined enemy to poachers; therefore, my answer shall be facts.

My statements were that a bunch of natives were discovered on Sunday morning, the 10th February, netting near Magna Charta, by two anglers, whose names I had, who had gone down over night, and that there was a punt in the Old River, which has only to be watched to tell such tales as will astonish the anglers who believe in this portion of the river being preserved. I also stated that the six and a quarter miles of water between the Staines Stone and Old Windsor Weir were at the mercy of the poaching vagabonds of Staines, Egham, and Wraysbury.

The two anglers who saw the netting in full swing are Mr. Alfred Wigby, the president, and Mr. Louis Gibson, a member of the Putney Angling Society, who will be pleased to give the gallant captain any information in their power. So much for the netting; and now for the punt whose home is in the Ditch.

It was from this very punt the poacher Haines, a platelayer, snared the five barbel and nine jack which were taken from him by Mr. John Page and another member of the Hammersmith Club, and it was into her home in this Ditch that Haines pushed her previous to the landing, which led to the tussle and overhauling which Mr. Greville Fennell so vividly described in the *Field* as "A Merry Piscatorial Mill." Why, every frequenter of the "Fleet" must know this punt. It was, if it is not now, the property of a one-arm-and-a-crook man. However, as I have seen both Mr. Wigby and Mr. Gibson fishing from it, there will be no difficulty in their giving sufficient evidence to satisfy Captain Etheridge as to its existence and ownership. Now for evidence that the "Old River" is cruelly poached. First I will quote from a letter which appeared in the FISHING GAZETTE about two years since, signed, "A Thames Fisherman":—"I have stated that this is the best 1½ miles fishing the Thames can boast of. I would add that it requires more protection than any other; and now let me challenge any man to say that he knows that it has been visited by a river-keeper during the past twelve months." A little further on in the same letter he says:—"I must say a word or two about the tricks that are played with the said Ditch. As I am writing, the river is rushing by in full flood, and by the time this is in print most probably it will have slightly subsided, and the fish that have headed up the Ditch will be at the mercy of a set of vagabonds, the ring-leader of which is the one-arm man; they will most assuredly lay their flue net first across the mouth, and having gone up some distance, will, with a long pole, drive the fish down into it. The net will then be refixed higher up, and another length will be similarly treated. Should they be as successful as on many previous occasions, a two-bushel bag will be required for the perch alone. What say you to this, Sir? Are the Windsor and Eton Preservation Society preserving this reach of water?"

If further confirmation of the poaching that has gone on here for years is needed, it can be had of Gray, the Windsor and Eton Preservation Society's keeper, who, I daresay, has as wholesome or unwholesome a dread of the "Fleet gang" to-day as he had a short time since, when they threatened his life, and when he admitted that they were too many for him to cope with. Poached! Why, I say again, it is absolutely at the mercy of a gang of poachers.

Whose fault is it that this state of affairs continues year after year? Not Captain Etheridge's, who possibly does not see the "Old River" once in twelve months, but of every London clubman who has not the courage to raise his voice against the waste of funds and mismanagement of our three associations, who think infinitely more of watching and fearing each other than of doing what should be their duty. I can understand now that the study of how to bring about "The Better Organi-

sation of the London Anglers" and "The Proper Preservation of the Rivers we Fish" has led some one to say that both are impossible, so long as we anglers ourselves are content to allow about six men, with interests of their own to serve, to make puppets of us.

Consistency extraordinary. I do like consistency, and am ever on the look out for it, and of course expecting it in the actions of my friends; but I must confess that I have failed to discover any in connection with the announcement that Mr. A. J. Little has taken an active part in getting up a fishing competition amongst professional fishermen. Can it be possible that this is my dear friend, A. J. Little, who wrote to our Editor as late as the 26th May last to the following effect: "I would suggest that, as the professional fisherman's aim is to provide sport and pleasure for his patrons, that he should give up handling a rod at all"?

Consistency only a little less extraordinary. "Head river keeper Alfred Thompson acted as umpire," so the report says. Did he? I fancy my "Did he?" will be echoed by all those who remember how strongly Mr. B. has written against professionals fishing. By the bye, had I not better quote him? In our paper of June 16th he says: "I have always set my face against the practice."

The Feast.—After the match came a feast to celebrate the event, with Mr. A. J. Little—who, I may here mention, is an honorary keeper—in the chair, supported, I presume, by head river keeper Alfred Thompson, in the vice-chair. It must be understood, please, that a few days have elapsed between the match and the feast, and that reports of the coming event have gone up against the stream to adjacent hamlets, and down with it to Brentford and Strand-on-the-Green. 'Twas a right merry feast, and as the days for showing up mad folly by miracles are past, we may take it that there was no handwriting upon the wall to disturb the drink-and-be-merry-while-you-may feeling, which was utterly devoid of any mistrust of the Brentford innocents who had previously been converted by Thompson (so Mr. Brougham tells us in our Dec. 1st number) to see the wickedness of their poaching practices.

The netting.—Some few weeks since I was pleased to challenge anyone to give a single instance of netting in the twenty miles of water over which the Thames Angling Preservation Society watches, and now here am I in a position to declare that the thing has since been done on two occasions. I know the three men, father and two sons, who did it; I know who watched and nearly caught them (not a T. A. P. S. keeper); I know what they netted, and to whom the dace portion of the hauls were offered. Seven shillings per hundred is the legitimate trade price of dace; but these were stolen, and, as usual with stolen goods, they were bought for considerably less. Who bought them—at least some of them—at five shillings per hundred? I may not tell here, but I will see that Mr. Spreckley gets all necessary information for the investigation which must take place. Possibly this information will put a stop to umpirings and feasting by river keepers with professional fishermen.

Letters have been passing between Mr. S. Wortley, M.P., his Sheffield constituents, and Mr. P. Geen, in reference to a clause threatened to be moved by Mr. Healy on the report of the Fresh-water Fisheries Amendment Bill. It is to the following effect:—"Except as regards Ireland, it is hereby enacted that the weekly close time for all fish shall not begin until 9 p.m. on Saturdays." I think P. G. is right; there must be an Irish joke somewhere, as at present there is no weekly close time for all fish, and, therefore, as a matter of course, it cannot commence until after—very much after—the time mentioned.

A lost opportunity.—I just learn, when too late to take advantage of the news, that our Editor is off to join Mr. Kelson, who is salmon-fishing in the Tay. I wish him a pleasant holiday, with plenty of sport; but I enter a protest against his taking lessons in casting from such a head-master of the art as Mr. Kelson, for what chance will anyone stand against R. B. M. at the next Anglers' Tournament? We shall have to fall back on casting with the forked stick, *à la mode de* Welsh Harp.

I. C. U.

AMATEUR SEA-FISHING.

NO. 1.—SHORE ANGLING.

By E. G.

IT is my purpose to show in the following papers that the fresh-water angler when at the sea coast can obtain sport, and in some localities large bags, by slightly modifying the

systems which prevail on rivers, and that without the necessity—with its accompanying expense—of going afloat.

Now, sea fishing, to one who lives on the coast and has his own boat, is not an expensive amusement, assuming he has a fair knowledge of boating, and has a friend to go with him possessed of the same amount of experience; then, when they once know the run of the tides and proper marks for the fishing grounds, they will be able to make good catches.

But to the casual visitor to the sea coast matters are quite different. If he wants to go for whiting, pout, dabs, pollack, and so on, he has to take one of the men who go in for 1s. 6d. an hour, and use their gear. Unprovided with oil skins, he soon gets his lower extremities soaked—probably is sick, and returns home with few fish and several shillings out of pocket. Be it here understood that I refer solely to the man who knows nothing whatever of sea-fishing. One who does will soon find out whether the boatman is really a fisherman or not, and the man will soon find out the same about him. At all seaside places there are good men, who really do try to get their customers sport, and will endeavour to do so even under adverse circumstances; but anyone who has done much sea fishing will agree with me that it requires the temper of a saint to have to put on baits, to keep perpetually setting the line to the right depth, to clear fouls, and then when no fish are caught to be told there are none in the sea.

Let, however, a man who really wishes to learn sea-fishing only get hold of a good man and treat him well, and he will soon, especially if he has a good knowledge of fresh-water fishing, be able to hold his own.

But I am wandering away from my subject. I wish to address those who go down to the sea for a few weeks only in the summer or autumn. Now, I expect most anglers would much prefer a sojourn in some quiet village on the Upper Thames or the Norfolk Broads; but to family men these places are barred. Children are always having something which requires sea air to bring them round, so they must be taken to the coast. The result is, that away goes P. F., taking no fishing tackle with him, to some overcrowded place. "What's the use," says he, "of taking rods and things to the sea? I can't use them in a boat, and if I could, I can't afford to spend about 15s. a day." So he arrives at his destination, and spends his time in drinking-bars and billiard-rooms, which, with occasional trips to town to see after his business (?)—always a good excuse—tends much to the detriment of his liver and pocket.

Now, to such a one I will address myself, and venture to hope that by following my advice he will find that fair—if not always extraordinary—sport may be obtained from the shore.

His sport, too, may be carried on, so to speak, in the bosom of his family. The youngsters may be made useful in fossicking about among the rocks for green crabs, limpets, &c., and pounding them up for ground-bait, or furnished with cheap rods may, in convenient situations, be entered at infant Wrasse, Coalies, Gobies, &c., &c.

Now, first, as to rods. Almost every kind of rod—barring a Lea roach rod—can be used for some kind of shore-fishing; but I will begin with the best for general work.

Any strong pike rod will do—from 12 to 13 feet in length, and with three different-sized tops. Many people use rods for shore-fishing from 16 to 18 feet. I see no advantage in these long rods. They are clumsy to handle and expensive to buy, besides being useless for other purposes.

Therefore, take your pike rod, give it two coats of varnish before you leave home and again when you return, and you will find it very little the worse for the work at the sea.

The best reels are the wooden Nottingham ones, 4 to 5 inches in diameter. I always have mine from Price, Seymour Street, Euston Square, price about 3s. 6d. As everyone now knows something about throwing from the reel, I strongly recommend that system, for this reason: if you coil your line down on the shingle or rocks, and you or anyone else step on it, it is sure to be cut, and it is hardly necessary to mention what a nuisance a knot in a line is. Therefore, get your reel to run as freely as possible. If it is at all tight at first, scrape the bobbin, then well rub in boiled linseed oil till the pores of the wood are well filled up, then varnish with shellac varnish, the recipe for which I will give later on.

Dressed silk lines are too expensive. The Manchester Twine Spinning Co. have a very good twisted cotton line dressed with some black composition, which answers very well. The external dressing soon wears off, as will always be the case with twisted lines; but the dressing is well in the material, and they are very durable. Never have less than 80 yards, and 100 is better, so as to have a good margin for breakages. You can, however, make a good cheap line for yourself by getting some white snooding. Brooks's, of Plymouth, will supply it. Get some catechu from the chemist's, and dissolve it in boiling water in a jam pot, then

put in your line, and put the pot on the stove so as to keep the solution warm for two or three hours, then stand it by for twenty-four hours, when take out the line and dry. I have obtained very good results from soaking it afterwards in cod-liver oil, and hanging it up in the garden for three or four days; then, before the dressing has set too much, soaking it again in the cold catechu solution, and then hanging it out again for a week or two.

I used an eight-plait silk line dressed in this way for the whole of the last trout-fishing season, and it answered very well. I also tried a twisted flax line for bass-fishing; but it was not quite a success, being rather sticky. It was not, however, thoroughly dry when first used, so the test was not a fair one; besides, before dressing it I forgot to wash out the sizing, which should be done in all cases, and the line dried before putting it in the catechu. I have not yet tried the solid paraffin, but mean to do so, and have no doubt it will answer well for sea lines.

Floats.—For shallow water the ordinary live bait or large barbel floats answer well; but as there are many places where you may get from 12 to 30 feet of water under the point of your rod a large sliding float is the best. I had a lot made some years since by W. Bailey, which answer remarkably well, and will carry a lot of lead. The cork part is 5 inches long by $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches in circumference.

I always use the sliding floats, as even in shallow water they are a great convenience, always running down to the top of the tackle, and so enabling you to land a fish with much greater ease than with a float made fast 8 or 10 feet up the line; besides, if you want to use it as a tight float, that can be done in an instant by taking two half-hitches round the top of the plug.

THE SPORTSMAN'S EXHIBITION AT THE AGRICULTURAL HALL.

ALTHOUGH the bicycles and tricycles formed the chief part of this interesting exhibition, the general show was very fair indeed. The recent great Fisheries Exhibition, of course, prevented many from exhibiting. Our first move on entering an exhibition of this kind is to look out for the tops of rods above the surrounding exhibits. In this case they led us to the stand of—

Messrs. F. T. Williams and Co., of 10, Great Queen Street, W.C. They had a capital general exhibit. One could hardly expect much new since the late exhibition; but we certainly like very much indeed Messrs. Williams and Co.'s new "Climax" rod joint fastening—it only adds $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. of weight to the rod, and is most effective and simple. Another novelty they showed us was a beautiful silk, undressed line, made in France, which is well worth notice, and their new Devon minnow, with three slits instead of two in the body, thus simplifying the hook mounting, and causing the bait to run home to the hook more easily.

Messrs. Anderson, Abbott, and Anderson, Indiarubber Manufacturers, showed the ventilated "Buckland Fishing Jacket," with double fly and false cuff. It can be looped up easily for wading. We like their brogue with leather heel and felt sole, a good combination.

Messrs. J. C. Cording and Co., 19, Piccadilly, had an extensive exhibit of their capital wading trousers, brogues, fishing stockings, &c.

At Mr. Charles Lankester's (of 151, New Bond Street) stall we saw some new leather leggings designed by that well-known sportsman, Mr. Cholmondeley Pennell, and called "Sans Bouton," from the fact that there are no buttons or spring to fasten up. This legging is made on a very good and very simple principle. It is a l in one piece, just as the leg of your trowser from your knee to your ankle would be if you cut it off at the knee. You have only to pull it on over your boot and tighten a strap at top and bottom. For either fishing or shooting it will be found to save time and trouble and give much comfort.

Mr. George Cording, of 125, Regent Street, 62, Piccadilly, and 231, Strand, kept up his reputation for first-class waterproof goods of all kinds by a varied and interesting general exhibit of stockings, trowsers, brogues, boots, bags, caps, coats, portable indiarubber boats, &c. We also noticed some corrugated rubber "grips" to slip over the handles of lawn tennis racquets. They are only 1s. each, about a foot long, and will stretch to go over the butt of any rod, and afford a firm grip in wet or fine weather, which is not the case with the ordinary black indiarubber.

Messrs. Hardy Bros., of London and North British Works, Alnwick, have done so well at these exhibitions that we always expect to see them put in a good appearance, and so they did again in this case. They have got a decided and valuable novelty in the shape of Mr. Weeger's patent reel fastener. Here, at last, is a fastening which is simplicity itself, and contains no springs, catches, bolts, or other nuisances, and yet it will instantly accommodate itself to the smallest trout or the largest salmon winch. We trust Messrs. S. Alcock and Co. will see their way to use Mr. Weeger's fastening on some trout rods which they are making from the pattern of our favourite trout rod—one that friends have so often asked us to get them duplicates of that we have decided to let Messrs. Alcock copy it, as they made it originally for Mr. Wm. Mudford, of Tiverton, from whom we got it through the late Rev. Joseph Jekyll, of Hawkrigge, Dulverton, who chose it out of Mr. M.'s stock for us. Mr. Jekyll was almost as well known in the West of England as the late Rev. John Russell, another fine old English sportsman.

Messrs. Hardy have further improved their capital "Carry-all Creel." Their split-cane salmon and trout rods are now certainly in every way equal to the American, and at about half the price. Mr. Kelton shared our admiration for the beautiful balance and powerful play of a fourteen-feet-six strip grise or salmon rod. The action of this rod lingers in our memory still, and we should dearly like to put it to practical test over a salmon pool. It has a fine steel core running through it from tip to butt. Messrs. Hardy are also making immensely powerful salmon rods in twelve strips.

Messrs. Watson and Sons, of 308, High Holborn, have one of their usual very creditable exhibits. They are doing very well with the American spoon baits (imported from America); their new and cheap angler's knife, with big blade, disgorger, and scissors, is very good. We can also strongly recommend

to anglers who mend their own rods when necessary, (i.e. when perhaps miles away from any rod maker) their "Anglers' Tool Case," containing spring balance to weigh up to 30 lb. (sufficient as a rule), pliers, knife, button hook, and rasp, shot pliers, fly pliers, scissors, gimblet, corkscrew, packing needle, baiting needles, screw turner, disgorger, &c., all in a folding leather case, easily carried in the rod or tackle box. Their £3 10s. split cane "Ladies' Rod," which all goes into the landing-handle, is a very neat little thing indeed. It wants a rather heavy reel line to bring out the casting powers of these very limber split-cane rods.

The "Berthon" Boat Company, Limited, 150, Holborn Viaduct.—We have much pleasure in drawing special attention to the very light, strong, and cheap folding fishing boats and puns made by this firm. Our attention was first drawn specially to them by a notice of them which appeared in Captain Sir G. S. Nares' "Voyage to the Polar Sea," published some years ago by Messrs. Sampson Low, Marston and Co., and again recently there was further very strong testimony to their value in a very charming book published by the same firm, entitled, "The Cruise of the *Falcon*," an account of a voyage from England to South America in a 30-ton yacht. The author, Mr. Knight, has nothing but praise for the excellent qualities and seaworthiness of these "Berthon" boats. At the Exhibition we saw one 7 feet long by 3 feet wide, to hold two persons, and yet a child could lift it. The price is only £8. It is



just the very thing for such a river as the Eden or the Coquet, where there are many long, deep pools, inaccessible to the angler except from a boat. Among the many splendid testimonials which the company have received, we notice one from the Marquis of Exeter, President of our National Fish Culture Association, and an ardent and very successful angler both for sea and fresh-water fish. As it cannot fail to carry great weight with our readers, we quote what his lordship says:—

"From the Most Hon. the Marquis of Exeter, Burghley House, Stamford. March 24th, 1883.

"I have no hesitation in saying that the 'Berthon' portable boat is a most useful and safe boat in all ways. I have had four of your boats of different kinds, and they have given me entire satisfaction. The two 9 feet connecting boats built for the 'Queen of Palmyra' last year are excellent boats, used as single or double; very steady."

Mr. George Brook, of Huddersfield, killed two salmon of 20 lb. each in the Eden from one of these boats.

Mr. O. Greg, of the Indian Forestry Department, says:—

"The boat I now have has already been over fifty marches on men and elephants; she has been many miles on the Ganges and the Ramgunga rivers, and down some of the worst rapids. I have caught mahseer up to 16 lb. out of her often, and got them into the boat in mid-stream myself."

J. H. Dixon, Esq., Inverau, Poolewe, Ross-shire, says:—

"The two collapsing boats I have had from you I have used on hill locks, to which there is no road, so that the boats have to be carried for miles over moorland. Both boats are admirably adapted for angling or shooting—the 9 ft. for two sportsmen and one pillion, the 7 ft. for one sportsman and the gillie; they are very stiff and steady in the water, and quite safe in a good breeze."

We give our readers illustrations of the "Berthon" boat, open and closed, and feel sure we have done them a service in pointing out the value of this company's invention.

GEORGE JAMES EATON, of Sturholmes, Matlock-Bath, Derbyshire, respectfully invites Noblemen and Gentlemen to try his standard FLIES for the present season. No flies sent or made up but what he himself has proved sure killers. A trial is all that is required, from gentlemen who can fish, to prove whether they may be genuine or not. Patronised by some of the best fishermen of the day. All flies dressed on the best Kentish hooks. Prices; Point Flies, 2s. 6d. per Dozen; Dropper Flies, 2s. per Dozen. Orders punctually attended to.—(ADVT)

CLUB REPORTS.

ANGLERS' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

Since my last report I beg to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of £1, donation from G. Wood, Izaak Walton Angling Society.—B. GHURNEY, sec.

CENTRAL ASSOCIATION OF LONDON ANGLING CLUBS.

A special delegate meeting will be held on Friday, March 28th, at 9 o'clock, at the Star and Garter, St. Martin's Lane.—J. FITCH, jun., sec.

FOXLEY ANGLERS.

The club wound up the season on Friday, arranging the prizes fished for (all in money) according to the balance in hand for that purpose. Water and weather seemed to conspire against the members who competed; however, the result at the weighing in showed—1st prize, Mr. J. P. Wheelton (our president); 2nd prize, Mr. Tom Hughes (our champion); 3rd prize, Mr. G. Woodman. The prizes are substantial ones, the club being well supported by hon. members.—G. W.

GOOD INTENT ANGLING SOCIETY.

The members brought their fishing to a close on the 9th inst. with a handsome show of fish, Mr. Fortescue being the champion with 27 lb. 9 oz. The week before that Mr. Brookwell brought up a splendid show of roach, 51 fish, weighing 57 lb. It was a handsome sight—one day's fishing. Mr. Editor, would you not like to have them on like that? I should. Important to anglers. One of our members was summoned for fishing at Broxbourne in water that Mr. Benningfield claimed a private right of fishing, from Carthage Weir to Calais Point. The hearing came off at Waltham on the 11th inst. The defendant pleaded not guilty to fishing in water that the plaintiff had any private right in, but guilty to being on land that he had no right to be on, it being on the meadow side above Carthage Weir, and called on Mr. Benningfield to prove his right. The plaintiff produced the lease of his private fishery. Mr. R. Murphy and Mr. Ghurney watched the case on behalf of the anglers. Mr. Murphy being called as a witness, disputed Mr. Benningfield's right to that stretch of water, saying the plaintiff's lease did not extend further than Carthage Weir, and also said that anglers had fished for the last two years from the towing path side without being interfered with by the plaintiff. Upon that the magistrate asked the plaintiff if he claimed any right upon the towing path side. The answer was No; he made no claim on the towing path side. But Mr. Benningfield used to make a claim before the Central Committee sent me down to test Mr. Benningfield's right to charge for fishing from the towing path, and although Mr. Benningfield took my name and address to summon me, he never did so, nor has he interfered with anyone since that time from the towing path. Then I say, in all honesty, Mr. Benningfield should return all the shillings that he has taken from the anglers for fishing there. I have paid his keeper many a shilling for fishing the same stretch of water. Mr. R. Ghurney being called, also disputed the plaintiff's right, and went very fully into the plaintiff's rights, where they began and ended, and claimed the water from Carthage Weir to Calais Point for the anglers by the courtesy of the Lea Conservancy and the Lord of the Manor. After a most patient hearing and long consideration the verdict was, as the defendant was on land he had no right to be on, they would fine him the nominal sum of 1s and costs. So I think for the future no angler that conducts himself properly will be ever interfered with from the towing path side.—R. MURPHY.

GREAT NORTHERN BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

On Thursday, March 13th, Mr. C. Watling, Sen., showed four nice roach the two heaviest weighing respectively 1 lb. 3½ oz., and 1 lb. 5½ oz.; Mr. J. Parslow, of the Odds and Even, had a splendid show of large roach, weighing respectively 14 oz., 1 lb. 3 oz., 1 lb. 9 oz., 1 lb. 9 oz., and 1 lb. 9½ oz., also a nice perch 1 lb. 14½ oz. Friday, March 14th, we had a pretty show of roach from the Lea, Mr. C. Watling, jun., having 15 lb., Mr. J. Fitch, 5 lb. 11 oz. A general visit on the Central Association was paid to this society on Wednesday, March 19th. Chairman, Mr. J. Fitch, vice, Mr. J. Dingley. The following gentlemen contributed to the harmony:—Messrs. J. Fitch, J. Dingley, J. Holmes, J. Green, J. Watling, C. Watling, sen., A. Smith, J. Whitehead, J. Blenheim, W. Cockson (encore), Rymer (encore), Brockwell, G. Parkin, W. Mayes and Taylor; ten clubs attended. The next visit will be paid to the odds and Even Angling Society. Our concerts held on Wednesday evenings during the fence months will commence on Wednesday next, March 26th, Mr. C. Watling, jun., will as usual conduct the room. Anglers and friends will receive a hearty welcome.—J. FITCH, sen., sec.

GRESHAM ANGLING SOCIETY.

The ordinary weekly meeting of this society was held on Tuesday evening at the Mason's Hall Tavern, Mason's Avenue, Basinghall Street. Mr. Bates (hon. treasurer) in the chair. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. A letter was read from Mr. Sachs, forwarding a handsome volume as a prize to be given for the finest specimen pike caught during the current year. Mr. Sachs also intimated his intention of presenting two others if the members would decide what they were to be given for. After some discussion it was resolved that they should be assigned, one for the largest roach, and the other for the finest chub—the latter taken with a fly—caught during the year. A vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Sachs, and the secretary directed to convey the same to him, and to acquaint him of the manner in which it was proposed to dispose of the prizes. Some further correspondence having been read, Mr. C. J. Mead was balloted for and unanimously elected a member of the society. A very interesting conversation followed upon the diseases of fish, the thanks of members being especially due to Dr. Brunton and Dr. Cash for their able and lucid explanations of the subject. Mr. Harding having enlivened the meeting with a humorous account of a pleasant though unsuccessful day spent at the society's new water, a vote of thanks to the chairman, coupled with an expression of pleasure at having him once more with the society, brought the meeting to a close. The usual musical selections followed. As the final arrangements for the supper to take place on Tuesday next will not be made until Monday evening, the secretary earnestly requests those members who intend being present, and who have not yet replied to his circular, to send him word as quickly as possible.—H.

HAMMERSMITH UNITED ANGLING SOCIETY.

Our members fished on the 9th and 13th inst., the last competition of the season, and, favoured by the fine weather and our usual liberal conditions as to locality and time of weighing in, we had some nice trays of fish, more especially on Thursday, when Mr. Smith weighed in the specimen roach of the season from the Thames; Mr. Inman, the specimen carp and a nice bream from the

Wimbledon Lake; and Mr. P. Geen, the specimen chub from the Windrus h in Oxfordshire—this amongst a show of 18 lb. of fish. The 1st prize was won by Mr. Johnson, with roach and dace from Datchet; 2nd, by Mr. Inman; 3rd, by Mr. Smith; and the 4th prize by Mr. Hobden, who promptly dropped it into the Anglers' Benevolent box as a fine for an undersized fish (quite accidentally he had been using it as a jack bait). Mr. Lewis also weighed in roach from Putney. We are about reorganising our society, and I am pleased to tell you, Mr. Editor, that one of our new institutions will be the abolition of club gross weights—specimen fish only.—H.

HIGHBURY ANGLING SOCIETY.

For two or three weeks prior to the close of the season the reputation of the society was fully maintained by a large number of our members who were eminently successful in furnishing the trays with several glorious shows of various fish. Among those most fortunate in getting among the specimens were Messrs. Shipley and Higley, who produced some heavy baskets of jack, roach, and perch, many of the roach taken by the former gentleman averaging 1½ lb. each. The other members contributing were as follows:—Mr. McDermott, roach and dace; Mr. E. Wheatley, roach and dace; Mr. H. Champ, roach and dace; Mr. S. Howell, roach and dace; Mr. Payne, jack; Mr. Devonshire, jack and perch; Mr. Lewis, jack, roach, dace, and perch; Mr. Edwards, roach; and Mr. Anthony, roach and dace.—J. E. WHEATLEY, sec.

HOXTON BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

The annual supper of the above society will take place in the club room on Tuesday evening, March 25th, 1884, at 8.30 for 9 o'clock. You will oblige by informing me if we shall have the pleasure of your company on that occasion not later than Thursday evening, March 20th, to enable me to arrange accordingly.—R. GHURNEY, sec., 10, Baches Street, Charles Square, Hoxton, N.

IZAACK WALTON ANGLING SOCIETY.

During the fence months the members will not meet on Sundays, only on Wednesday evenings, when there will be a smoking concert held, to which all members and their friends are cordially invited.—H. B.

LINCOLN ANGLING SOCIETY.

Our first annual supper, which took place at our club house on Monday, the 17th inst., was most successful. Our jolly host, Mr. Ellis, catered most excellently, everything being placed on the table that could be wished for, and ample justice was done by all present. After the cloth being drawn, the chair was well filled for the evening by Mr. H. Moore, of the Independent Brothers' Angling Society, and the vice-chair by Mr. A. Price, of Seymour Street, Euston Square, who supplies all who go to him in a satisfactory manner with first class tackle. After the usual toasts the distribution of prizes took place, the successful members being Messrs. Blenheim, Bingle, H. Blyth, J. Blyth Bland, Wanel, Chase, and J. Green. The harmony next commenced with an overture on the concertina by Mr. Williams; Mr. H. Moore was next asked to oblige with his favourite song of "Timothy Black"; Mr. J. Blyth followed in excellent style with the famous song of "Pat Maoy"; W. White, a friend, did not forget to let the bells go "Ting, Ting Ting"; Mr. Green was kindly asked for the "Cruiskeen Lawn" which was very pleasing to everyone; several other gentlemen also contributed to the evening's entertainment, which passed off without a hitch, everybody going home satisfied. We also had a great number of good prizes given for next season's fishing, which we thank all friends kindly for.—W. BINGLE, sec.

NEWCASTLE AND GATESHEAD IZAACK WALTON ANGLING ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, Messrs. R. Dodds, M. Lamb, J. Brown, and myself—all members of the above club—journeyed to Hexham, and fished the Tyne at that place, but met with rather poor sport, the water being a bit too fine. Mr. Dodds showed at night at the club house, Mrs. Foster's, Mason's Arms, Newgate Street, two trout and two dace; Mr. Lamb, five trout and one dace; myself, four trout and three dace—Mr. Brown having returned with an empty creel. There is every prospect of a good season, it having been a very open winter.—J. MAJOR.

PRINCE OF WALES ANGLING SOCIETY.

The members of the above society showed up in good force on Monday evening. After the ordinary business was transacted, the annual supper was brought forward, and it was decided to hold it on Monday, April 28th, when we hope to see all old faces. After that was settled, some good songs were rendered, and brought a most enjoyable evening to a close.—WM. BOWYER, sec.

SOUTH-EASTERN ANGLING SOCIETY.

The 16th inst. being the first off Sunday for some time past, very few attended, and nothing of importance transpired. On Wednesday a good few of the old faces turned up; supper was the first on the roll call, then rules, after which came prizes for the ensuing season. A very enjoyable evening was spent. Mr. James's testimonial fund was talked over, and I have a good account to send for so young a society. We shall not close it till after our quarterly night, which is on the 26th inst., which I hope all our members will bear in mind. On that night important business.—H. H. T. WESTON, sec.

THE GRANGE ANGLING SOCIETY.

The members of this society held a match at Egham on Wednesday, the 12th inst. for a silver-plated cup presented by Mr. Johnson, and the three prizes which were not won on the 4th inst. The cup, which was made first prize, was taken by Mr. Fowler, with a barbel; and the other three fell to Messrs. J. H. Rich, W. Rich, and Wand, for dace.—W. K.

THE PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

The usual weekly meeting of this society took place on Monday last. There was a large number of members present, among them being Messrs. Blamey, Brown, Fennings, Robinson, Goodger, Bennett, Harden, Pattinson, Walker, Adlington, Russell, Booker, Foreman, Gillatt, Dr. Brunton, J. Lander (hon. sec.), &c. And among the visitors were Messrs. C. Dancocks and Jackson. Mr. H. Gray was unanimously voted to the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The hon. sec. read a letter from J. McLaren, Esq., M.P., in reply to the vote of thanks of the society for his having presided at the annual dinner, and expressing the pleasure he had experienced on that occasion, and further intimating that he had duly presented our petition for keeping the Thames as an open river. Also a letter from Mr. W. H. Brougham,

in reference to his report. The hon. sec., ever on the watch for improving the society, has purchased a fine volume on salmon fishing for the library. Dr. Brunton offered to present the Chandos edition of Walton and Cotton's Angler, which offer was thankfully accepted. Mr. Huggett read an interesting paper on "Bass Fishing," which was received with applause, and a vote of thanks was unanimously voted to him for the same. Mr. Huggett weighed in two good trays of roach, one tray containing ten of the largest weighing 12 lb. 4 oz., or an average of about 1 1/4 lb. each. They were much admired. Mr. Harden described some trout fishing in the river Otter, near Sidmouth Junction, taking seven brace in one day—good fish. Mr. Brooker exhibited a new fly case, by Mr. Williams, of Great Queen Street, its principal feature being that the gut of each fly is stretched to its full length, and is very easily got at, and not so liable to curl as flies kept in the ordinary manner, as in a fly book. Mr. Gray has been with a friend fishing at Tempsford, and gave some interesting details of their sport. Mr. H. B. Brown has been grayling fishing in the Itchen, and has weighed in several fine ones during the past week. He also showed one at the meeting. He was, however, not pleased to hear that, by the rules of this society, grayling cannot be weighed in after the 1st Feb. It is probable he will propose an alteration of this rule. Next Monday evening there is a smoking concert, under the direction of Messrs. Blamey and the hon. sec. Members and their friends are invited. It is expected it will be a great success, as Mr. Blamey has promised some first-rate talent. Commence at 8 o'clock. A vote of thanks to Mr. Gray for the able manner in which he carried out the duties of the chair, and a brief reply brought this successful meeting to a close.—T. H.

UNITED BROTHERS, DEPTFORD.

On the 9th, most members turned out, eager for the fray, to try their luck, being the last Sunday out this season, and I am very pleased to say they were well rewarded for their trouble, as they returned with a very nice sample of fish. Mr. Richardson, some very nice bream, dace, and gudgeon; Mr. Curran, roach and dace; Geo. Belton, some of the finest roach I have seen from the Lea this season; Mr. Payne, barbel; Mr. Penton, bream. On Saturday, March 29th, being the last club night this season, all members are requested to clear the books. April the 5th will be our annual general meeting, when all members should be present for alteration of rules, &c. (which alterations must be in writing and delivered to the secretary at the club house not later than March 29th).—W. T.

ANGLING MATCH FOR £20 NEAR BRIGG.

The long talked of angling match between two Sheffield and two Barnsley anglers, well-known for their proficiency, was decided yesterday in the river Ancholme, above and between Appleby and Broughton Bridges, which are situated about three miles below Brigg. Some time during the Christmas holidays a challenge was issued on behalf of five Barnsley anglers to fish five Sheffielders, before the close of the coarse fishing season for £25 a-side. On the Sheffield anglers responding favourably to the challenge, the necessary agreement could not be satisfactorily ratified, but subsequent arrangements were made for A. Crofts and W. Darwin, of Sheffield, and Henry Hitchen and James Robson, of Barnsley, to fish for four hours, on March 10th, for a stake of £20, nothing but roach to weigh in. The Sheffield representatives, accompanied by a large party of friends and anglers, left Sheffield at an early hour in the morning. On nearing Brigg the outlook was unfavourable, it being cold, with a slight fall of snow. The contestants tossed for choice of ground on Appleby Bridge. The Sheffielders were successful in the spin of the coin, and they having heard that several spots below Appleby Bridge had been well baited by their opponents, chose the ground above and between Appleby and Broughton Bridges. At 12.30 the contestants threw in, the weather at this time being fine, but the water was rather low and slightly coloured, but still in fair condition. For Sheffield, Darwin at once became busy, and before the call of time had succeeded in landing no less than 22 fine roach, the total weight of which was 10 lb. 6 oz. Crofts landed 16, weighing 7 lb. 5 1/2 oz. For Barnsley, Robson caught 12, weighing 7 lb. 10 oz.; but Hitchen failed to land a single member of the desired class of fish. The following were the weights:—

SHEFFIELD.			
R. Darwin.....	22 roach, weighing	10 lb. 6 oz.	
A. Crofts	16 " "	7 5 1/2	
Total	38 " "	17 11 1/2	
BARNSELY.			
James Robson ..	12 roach, weighing	7 lb. 10 oz.	
Henry Hitchen ..	0 " "	0 0	
Total	12 " "	7 10	

Two of Robson's catch were splendid specimens of roach, weighing about 1 1/2 lb. each.—*Sheffield Independent.*

FENCE SEASON.—STEAM LAUNCHES AND SWANS.

UNDER the heading of "Slaughter of Wild Creatures," a correspondence has been going on in the *Standard* between Mr. Russell and Sir T. J. Nelson. The following appeared from the latter on March 14th, and has elicited a reply from Mr. Thomas Spreckley on behalf of the Thames Angling Preservation Society, which was published in the same journal on March 18:—

SIR,—My plea for the preservation from destruction of the otter, the kingfisher, and the moorhen has raised the ire of Mr. Russell, with whom angling seems to be the one thing for which he lives. Avoiding altogether the question on which alone you commented, he proceeds to denounce me as one of those who, traversing the Thames in a steamer, are destroyers of the spaw of fish.

I heard that fable related to the Select Committee of the Thames Navigation Bill last Session, where it was exploded. The fish spawn in the first three months of the year, and the pleasure steamers are not then in use, the Boatrace-day being the earliest time at which they ever make their appearance. I have no intention of occupying your columns with entering into the steam-launch

question beyond this, that the outcry comes principally from the fishermen, who, pitching their punts in the navigable channel of the Thames, in defiance of the By-laws of the Conservancy, object to move to allow the steamer to pass in the only place where she can floor. I was once a warm supporter of the Thames Angling Preservation Society; but when they commenced a crusade against the swans I withdrew my subscriptions, as to me and many others a swan is a more picturesque object than a fishing punt.

What the Upper Thames has become Sir Gilbert East has graphically described in the columns of a contemporary.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

March 13.

T. J. NELSON.

SIR,—There are some inaccuracies in the letter of Sir T. J. Nelson, which appeared in the *Standard* of March 14th, that require removing.

In the first place, he says, "The fish spawn in the first three months in the year." This is decidedly wrong, as the recognised close season for spawning purposes is "between the 15th of March and the 15th day of June, both days inclusive," and the "pleasure steamers" are on the river almost throughout the whole of that period.

Then, again, Sir T. J. Nelson says, "I was once a warm supporter of the Thames Angling Preservation Society," and withdrew in consequence of "a crusade against the swans." During the time I have had the honour of being chairman of the society there has been no action taken against the swans beyond what is done, with the permission of the Lord Chamberlain, at the time the perch are spawning, more especially at Walton, when men are paid and employed to watch that portion of the river for the purpose of keeping the birds away from those places where the spawn is deposited.

I am not aware of an instance where anglers "pitching their punts in the navigable channel of the Thames" have objected to move for the passage of a steam launch; but in any case where an angler is found infringing the By-laws, a remedy is easily obtained;

The object of the Thames Angling Preservation Society is not merely to benefit the comparatively few who fish in punts, but the thousands who fish from the banks, in the enjoyment of a pure and healthful recreation, and who thereby obtain wholesome food for their families, the river being free for all classes to angle in it.

As to the questions affecting the otter and the swan, the one is an undoubted destroyer of the best of fish, and the other during the close season an unquestionable destroyer of the spawn. When the young fry begin to appear on the shallows they are washed on shore by the steam launches, and thousands are left behind by the wash to perish.

I believe there is everything in the work of the Thames Angling Preservation Society to commend itself to the support of the general public, and there is nothing in the action of the Society that should prevent Sir T. J. Nelson, whether an angler or not, from renewing his support in the common spirit of philanthropy.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

THOS. SPRECKLEY,

President of the Thames Angling Preservation Society.

13 and 15, Cannon Street, E.C., March 17.

THE POACHING AT WATFORD.

ON March 11, James Goby, sen., and James Goby, jun., of Fitzroy Place, Euston Road, were charged before the Watford Bench with taking fish with a net from the Grand Junction Canal, rented as a fishery by the Watf. rd Piscators, on February 21st, at Rickmansworth. Mr. Boydell said that he appeared to prosecute on behalf of the Watford Piscators, who had a lease of that part of the canal from Cassiobridge to where the Colne joins the canal below Beasley's lock, in which the defendants were fishing with a net. On the day in question the defendants were seen by Police-Sergeant Boutell, fishing, not only in the canal, but also in the river Gade.

Upon speaking to them, and searching the younger defendant, he found nothing, but his suspicion was aroused from the elder slipping away. He had previously seen them take at least two jack out of the canal and put them in their pockets. He, therefore, followed the elder defendant to the house of a man named Kempsten, at Cassiobridge, and got there just in time to see him taking fish from his pockets. He seized their net, which was a very close one, and at least twenty dozen roach, dace, chub, and minnows. If the Bench looked at the net they would at once observe that nothing could escape it.

He had no doubt that it would be said by the defendants that they had fished this canal for twenty years. In answer to that he would point out that there were notices of the society posted at Cassiobridge, Common Moon, and Beasley's lock, and many other places along the banks of the canal. Mr. Beasley had cautioned them over and over again. Mr. Hutchings had cautioned them, and Mr. Beasley told the sergeant that they were the greatest nuisance imaginable. He, therefore, asked the Bench to teach these men that they could not come and take the fish from private waters in this way.

The elder defendant said he was minnow catching.

Sergeant Boutell stated that the net used by the defendants was fixed to a pole twenty feet long, and they had two large cans to carry fish in. The value of the fish taken was at least 5s. Mr. Boydell produced the lease of the water granted by the Grand Junction Canal Company to the Watford Piscators for the sum of £10 a year, and stated that the Society had only lately placed six or seven hundred large fish in this portion of the canal, and that these men were in the habit of selling small fish to the tackle shops to be sold as bait, at the rate of 1s. 6d. per dozen.

The Chairman, in telling the defendants the decision of the Bench, that they should be fined £1 1s. and 8s. 3d. costs each, and 5s. value of the fish taken, or go to prison for fourteen days, said that by pleading guilty they had admitted that they knew perfectly well that they had no right to fish in the water.

The prisoners were removed to St. Albans.

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CHAS. FARLOW & Co.
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MANUFACTURERS OF FIRST-CLASS RODS AND TACKLE,
SALMON AND TROUT FLIES, SUITABLE FOR
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venient in its central position that its enormous success fails to surprise the habitual
user.

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living authorities than those of any other firm. They are the most scientifically con-
structed Fly and Spinning Lines ever introduced to the angling public. Vide the
"Field" and the entire British Sporting Press. Samples per Post, 2 stamps, with
Pamphlet. No Fancy Prices. Five per Cent off for Cash with Order. All Goods sent
Carriage and Post Paid.

D AND W. H. FOSTER, ASHBOURNE

"Art, en pire, earth itself, to change are doomed."—THE HERMIT.

EXCHANGE.

Things Wanted—to BUY, to SELL, or to EXCHANGE.

N.B.—We take no responsibility whatever in connection with advertisements inserted
in this or other parts of this paper; but beg our readers to expose any case of im-
position. The prices for inserting advertisements in this "EXCHANGE"
Column are 6d. per line for one, or 4d. per line for more than one insertion.
Address Manager, FISHING GAZETTE, 12 and 13, Fetter Lane, London, and send
stamps with the order, or the advertisement cannot be inserted.

WANTED.—Particulars and prices of Secondhand Books on Angling and Fish Culture.
Must be in good condition.—Address Editor, FISHING GAZETTE, 12 and 13, Fetter Lane,
London, E.C.

Splendid Trout Flies, price 8d. per dozen, free.—J. Palmer, Littleworth, Redditch.
FOR SALE.—Good fly rod, brass winch, and line for same, 12s. 6d. Tweed mackintosh,
(cost 35s.), 17s. A neat box, fitted cabinet lid, 5s. All as new; owner going abroad.—
W. E. Johnson, 61, Paddington Street, Baker Street, London.
Trout flies, excellent blue uprights and red uprights, from a very old original pattern,
1s. 4d. per dozen. A new rubber minnow, 1s.—R. W. S., Weston, Bath.

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RIVER REPORTS.

TIME OF HIGH WATER IN THE THAMES.

To find the time of high water in the Thames at any of the following places,
to the time of high water at London Bridge (given below).

	30 minutes for Chelsea.
40	" Putney.
45	" Hammersmith.
50	" Barnes.
55	" Kew.
75	" Richmond.
80	" Twickenham.
85	" Teddington.

Example:—If it is high water at 2 o'clock at London Bridge, it will be high
water at Teddington about 3.25, or eighty-five minutes later; but it must be
remembered that a strong wind accelerates or retards the tide very much.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.

		Morning.	Afternoon.
For Saturday, March 22	.. ..	9.17	10.3
Sunday, " 23	.. ..	10.41	11.19
Monday, " 24	.. ..	11.52	12.0
Tuesday, " 25	.. ..	12.20	12.45
Wednesday, " 26	.. ..	1.7	1.28
Thursday, " 27	.. ..	1.48	2.8
Friday, " 28	.. ..	2.27	2.47

NOTE.—New moon, March 27. Probable high tide, March 28, 29, 30, and
31.

THE LOWER THAMES.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The river below Staines and as low down as Brentford, was visited by head
river keeper Alfred Thompson, and the staff of bailiffs in the employ of the
Thames Angling Preservation Society, on the first day of the close season for
the purpose of ascertaining whether any anglers were out. Not a single punt
was afloat, and they only came in contact with four bank anglers, and it is
satisfactory to know they were men quite ignorant of the By-laws. They
thanked the river keepers and cheerfully gave up their angling. On Monday
last, under the superintendence of Mr. G. J. Rough, the Conservancy head
river keeper, with the assistance of head river Alfred Thompson, of the T. A.
P. S., all the boats of the netmen between Strand-on-the-Green and Putney
were overhauled, and not the vestige of a fish could be found. This result is,
without doubt, due to the frequent visits and advice of Mr. Thomas Spreckley,
who has won the sympathy and good feeling of the netmen. No other man
could have succeeded in doing what he has done amongst a class of men that
required the most peculiar treatment. Altogether, the result of these visits
prove how much better educated are the anglers of the present day, and how
differently the clubs are managed in regard to the sizes and seasons of fish to
what they were in years gone by. The Angling Reports which follow
embrace the last three days of the season.

Richmond.

C. Brown, in three days, 20 lb. of dace and a bream of 2 lb.; and H. Wheeler,
in the same time, 15 lb. of dace and roach.

Twickenham.

Edward Finch, in two days, twenty-five dozen of dace; one bream, two
roach, and one perch; Mr. Beard, with George Chamberlain, in one day, three
dozen of dace; Richard Moffatt, in two days, four and half dozen of dace;
Joseph Dobbin, in one day, four dozen of dace; and John Spoad, in three
days, ten dozen of dace.

Teddington

Joseph Baldwin, in two days, six dozen of dace; and B. Stevens, in three
day, twelve dozen. Some trout have been seen feeding in this district.

Kingston.

Our correspondent says, "I have seen ten trout feeding in half a mile of water.
I could have caught two good fish last night with a landing net, from 9 lb. to
11 lb. each."

Hampton Court.

Our correspondent says, "The trout are beginning to show themselves in
good numbers and it looks well for another season. Every evening below the
bridge I can see five or six on the feed. Should we get a fine April, there will
be some good sport with the trout, as they appear to be increasing every year."

Sunbury.

Edward Clark, in one day, six dozen of dace. Our correspondent says, "The
trout are showing themselves. I have seen ten fish, and two very fine ones,
at Hampton, on Sunday last."

Staines.

F. Collyer, in one day, eight chub and two brace of perch, one fish weighing 2½ lb.; Charles Hone, three jack; and John Keene, two dozen of roach, the largest 1½ lb. The trout are plentiful everywhere.

Docket Point.

Two days' fishing (too late for last week's report); one chub, one bream, some fine roach and dace caught, a pretty small trout about 3 lb., bright as silver hooked in the lip, put back all right. There are plenty of trout in this part about the same size, also a big one or two higher up, put back the end of September last: I hope to see a gentleman get one of them this season. There are plenty of trout, which only want trying for. Water getting first-rate, and if the weather keeps the same there ought to be a good report of trout taken next month.—JAMES HASLETT.

UPPER THAMES.

The river has dropped down into fine order, and by the "Fools' Day" will be in grand order for trout. My correspondents from most stations between Lechlade and Staines all are sanguine about the chances of great sport amid the beauties during the season 1884—5.—MARLOW BUZZ.

Oxford.

The weather on the 14th was superb, and I do not think, if anglers had been permitted to manufacture their own day, they could in any way have bettered it. In the Thames the water was clear, with just a soupçon of colour, sufficient to make the fish well on the feed; but in the Cherwell it was slightly thicker than I care to see it, though, fortunately, it had not the slightest effect on the sport, and my friend, Mr. L. Kelson, who was out with me on the lower portion of the river, had a fair take of perch, our joint bags amounting to nineteen and one chub. In the Canal, Mr. Corbett was successful amongst the chub; and in the Evenlode, Mr. Harris, of Queen Street, had four jack, going 6½ lb., 2½ lb., down to 1 lb. and ½ lb. respectively, together with two roach of 1½ lb. and 1 lb. and six perch. In the same water, I learn Mr. Geen had some excellent sport, but as I suppose it will be detailed by Mr. Howe, it is not necessary for me to give it here. At Pinkhill, the lockkeeper showed me the head of a jack weighing 12 lb., which he had picked up in a moribund condition on the bank, and I should judge, from what I know of the water, that it must hold a few monsters. In the Cherwell, Messrs. Thurland and Bricknell had some excellent sport: the latter gentleman informs me he caught no less than fifty-three roach, some of them very good fish indeed. A splendid jack of 22 lb. was exhibited on Saturday last at the cheap fish mart, and sold at 6d. per lb., with a smaller one of 3 or 4 lb. weight, which was taken from its inside. On Wednesday a man came into the town with a cargo of tench which had been caught in the Blenheim fish traps; he regrets doing it now, as, unfortunately, he was dropped on by one of the warrant officers, and his name and address promptly taken. This is clearly an offence against the 4th section of the Mundella (1878) Act, which succinctly states, "No person shall buy, sell, or expose for sale any fish, under a penalty of 40s." For my own part, I think that tench should be exempted from the schedule, as they do not spawn until the middle of the season, and I have known them as late as August 28th.—CHERWELL OTTER.

P.S.—Poaching, indeed! "I. C. U.," in the Oxford district. Stuff and nonsense, Sir! Never such a thing known. The real fact is, the fish insist on "chucking their selves out permiscus like."

Ancholme District.

We seem to have taken a bound all at once into the most delightful summer weather. I saw a cuckoo about a week ago, and hosts of flies are appearing, which, in the ordinary course of things are seldom seen before the middle of April. Trout are, therefore, going quickly into capital condition. I caught two brace of beauties one afternoon last week, but have not since been able to get out. Mr. L. Ford and Mr. H. Jameson had a fair catch at the riverhead on Monday; amongst them were two roach of 1½ lb. each.—THOMAS FORD.

Ballynahinch.

For this last week we had no angler on above. On Monday we had a fall of snow, about four inches deep. To-day (Wednesday) it has almost disappeared; but by the issue of this, the snow bray will have all gone down, and, it is to be hoped, clear up the weather.—WALTER BLACKADDER.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

Since last report weather has been very changeable. We also had a heavy spate; but yesterday and to-day (Thursday) the waters are in very good fishing order. On Saturday last Mr. Dudgeon got one salmon, 13½ lb., and we got one, 12 lb. On Monday Mr. Shum got three, 10, 11½, and 13½ lb. Same day, Mr. Dudgeon one, 10 lb., and Mr. Beresford one, 13 lb. To-day (Thursday) weather seems to be very unsettled; but the waters are in splendid order for angling.—WALTER BLACKADDER.

Blackwater (Mallow).

The Blackwater is now getting into fine order after all the floods we have had. I send you what fish were killed for the last few days:—Mr. J. Sidebottom, one 12 lb.; Mr. S. H. Adams, two, each 10 and 12 lb. Mr. Payne, one 13½ lb.; Mr. Hodgson, of Derby, two, each 16 and 20 lbs.; Major Brown, one, 9½ lb.; Mr. James Millar, three, each 10, 11, 13½ lb.; Mr. C. G. Hope Johnstone Clifford, four, each, 8½, 12½, 14½, and 15 lb.; Mr. E. B. Cunliffe, of London, two to-day.—J. E. HAROLD.

Chichester.

The close season has at length put a veto on coarse fish angling. The last day of the season was not a red letter day. Several anglers were out, but takes, although numerous, were small, several being heavy with spawn. Taken as a whole, the season has been a fairly successful one—the fish brighter and better than for some time past—the weed and mud clearance from the canal having shown a marked effect. Some five years since take of bream were commonly made up to thirty and forty pounds, and three or four good carp in a couple of hours an ordinary occurrence, yet now ten pounds of bream is a rare thing to hear of, with the water teeming with monsters. They may be seen, but not had. Small fry are very numerous. I trust the next season may prove a more remunerative one.—GEORGE F. SALTER.

Coquet (Weldon Bridge).

On the 13th the Rev. Mr. Oliver creeled 5½ lb. trout, and on the 17th he

had splendid sport, he creeled 8½ lb. w. h. fly—Holdins fancy Greenwell glory and the March. On the 17th Mr. Wm. Mathews creeled nine brace with worm. The river is in good order, and grand weather at present.—A. GLASS.

Dove.

The coarse fish close season having now commenced, we shall have a less number of rosters on our river during the next three months than we have had during the past. Still our waters are so celebrated for trout, that our banks will be by no means deserted, for now that the sun is becoming more powerful and every day the leaves and trees get greener, we shall before long have the usual invasion of tourist anglers from all quarters of piscatorial England. There are few more picturesque or health-giving spots in the country, than the rich valley of the Dove, and owing to the excellent protection and attention which the stream receives, it would be difficult to find a public river where better promise of successful trouting could be given. At present the water is running in really beautiful order and we had out this week a considerable number of fly fishermen, most of whom have been rewarded with fair catches of trout. The most destructive flies remain about as last week, namely, the blue and cock winged duns. With warm bright days, we have had cold windy nights, and though there has been an abundance of natural food on the surface yet it has suffered in consequence of the chilling atmosphere. Grayling have been rising along with trout all the week; but when taken of course they have to be thrown back again, as they are out of season.—THE SPODGER.

Eden (Carlisle).

The last week has been a disappointing one for anglers. The heavy fall of snow we had was not cleared away by Friday's rain, and, under the heat of the sun, keeps dribbling into the river and spoils both salmon and trout fishing. A few fish have been killed with the rod, but blanks have been more numerous than prizes. A gentleman killed one 12½ lb. in the Corby Castle water, and Tom Bird, keeper, has taken three at Armathwaite. Very little has been done in the way of trout fishing. But the snow ought to be cleared away shortly, and then trout will take the fly greedily, as the March brown is on in thousands. As a sign of the earliness of the season, it is worthy to remark that this fly, which usually makes its first appearance quite at the end of March or beginning of April, was seen by the writer a fortnight ago. Except for its milky tinge, the river is now getting into fine order.—SILVER GREY.

Exe (Exeter).

Only a few salmon taken during the last week, and chiefly at Salmon Pool. Some fine catches of trout have been made by the fly-fishermen; blue upright, silver twist, and March brown, each being the medium of some good sport in Upper Exe, and also in the Culn, between Uffculme and Hemyock.—J. A. KELLEY.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

Since my last report I hear very favourable accounts of the salmon fishermen, two gentlemen especially, Messrs. Pearson and Baer, doing well; the first named killed five salmon in one day and the latter three. I wound up the season with a good take of perch; largest, ¾ lb., and last Saturday banked a nice trout 1½ lb. weight. Perch caught with live minnow, and trout with March brown.—J. A. KELLEY.

Exe (Tiverton).

The river is now in very good order for fishing, and fish have sported very well until to-day (Thursday), which has been very cold and rough, accompanied with hailstorms, and fish have taken short.—WM. MUDFORD.

Ilfracombe.

Sea fishing.—The weather for the past few weeks has been very unsettled, and fishing slack. On Friday week a large cod and skate were caught, and on Saturday, a cod; Thursday, one boat out fishing with ground lines; they caught a small string of whiting. At Tamlin, a gentleman fishing from the jetty, caught two large scorse and a large crab weighing about 2 lb., which he landed safely. Saturday, a few lbs. of whiting was caught from the boats, and on Monday, P. Redmore, fishing from the pier head, caught several whiting, pout, and dabs.—C. COMER.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

Lakes of Killarney.

The weather entirely against the angling up to the present. However, it looks better for the next weeks. There have been very few salmon taken for the last three days, as the lakes and rivers are out of order for fishing. March 12—Mr. J. D. Curtayne, one salmon, 11 lb., on Flesk; Daniel O'Donoghue, one, 11 lb. on Flesk; Pat Clifford, one salmon, 10 lb., on the middle lake. March 14th—Tim McCarthy, one salmon, 10 lb. March 16th—Callaghan McCarthy, two salmon, 23 lb., on Mr. C. Coltsmann's part of the Flesk. March 17th—Robin Robert, three salmon, on the middle lake; James Hayse, one, 10½ lb.; Tim McCarthy, one 12½ lb. The nets did very little last week, the lakes entirely too high.—TIM MCCARTHY, fisherman.

Lea (Waltham Abbey).

Since my last the fish as a rule have been feeding very much better in the Abbey stream. Both chub and roach fishermen have been doing very well. Mr. Clark and Mr. Chapman, and two other subscribers, did very well on Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday, and had very nice takes from 4 lb. up to 8 lb. late on in the afternoon; Alfred Wheeler, on Tuesday, 8½ lb. of very nice fish, and breaks away with chub very numerous with most of them. The Abbey stream is open for roach fishing until the last day of March.—PENCIL.

Lee (Co. Cork).

We commenced this week with tempest and rain, and a heavy flood was the result. This was on Friday last, and since then the weather has been more favourable. There is, however, a sharpness in the bracing March winds which are very trying, and which mar to some extent the pleasures of angling. On Saturday the water was clearing nicely, and some havoc was made among the "silvered beauties" of the Lee. Five, among three rods at Fargus, represented a fair figure for one day's sport, especially as some of the fish scaled 12 lb. Sir Augustus Warren and party had also a good bag; but, strange to say, higher up the river the fish fought very shy and showed a degree of sulkiness that was remarkable. It has been noticed, however, especially in the Lee, that while they are on the "take" in some parts of the river, they will not rise in other places, though similar means are used for catching them. Among the other successful anglers during the last few days are Mr. F. H. Bass, four; Mr. James Lambkin, two; Mr. A.—and his brother, four; Mr. D. Cronin, one; Mr. Manning, two, and his brother, three; Mr. Herrick, four; Mr. Barter, three; Captain Vansittart and party, eight, including the five already mentioned on Saturday.

Leicester.

The members of the Lynton (near Leicester) Angling Society have had a very successful fishing season, the takes being exceptionally heavy. On Friday, the 14th inst., the last day of the season, a bream was caught in the Wreake weighing 7 lbs. 2 oz. I omitted last week to mention some good takes of chub on the last two days of the season. Mr. A. Smith took a brace of very handsome fish weighing close upon 9 lbs. Mr. Condon had a nice lot, the largest of which scaled 3 lb. 11 oz., and Mr. Gladstone, among others, showed one 3 lb. Very little trout fishing has been done up to the present, and until we have had some rain there will be nothing to report.—ALBERT.

Loch Tay (Scotland).

On the Killin Reserved Water on Monday Mr. Ritchie had a fish of 22 lb. Yesterday, one of the stormiest days of the season, Mrs. Law, Glasgow, on the same water, killed a fish of 9 lb. On the Killin Hotel Water, on Monday, Mrs. Bayley, Manchester, had a salmon of 18 lb.

Lugg and Arrow.

Both of these streams are now in good order for the fly, having lowered and cleared very nicely. Up to the end of last week the worm was the best bait, but the fine weather of this week has brought the fly in use again. Some very good trout were taken in the Arrow on Friday, some weighing 12 oz. each, with the worm, and a nice lot were taken on Saturday in the Lugg with the same bait, and a small dish was landed the same day in the Arrow. On Monday a very nice lot of fish were taken in the Arrow with the blue dun. Fishing near the station on Tuesday a lot of fine trout were taken with the March brown, and a very good dish was landed down the water with the blue dun. In a tributary of the Arrow a very good basket was taken on Wednesday with the same fly. The Ivington district has been visited this week with the fly, and some very fine trout have been landed with the fly. A few nice fish have been taken in the Eardisland waters with the March brown. Some good sport has been had in the Monkland waters with the fly. The Pinsley is now in very good order for fly fishing, having cleared itself very quick, and the fish are biting well at the March brown and blue dun, and several nice dishes have been taken with both the flies this week. There has been but few visitors to the Shobden waters.—GWYNNE.

Lynn.

Owing to the mildness of the season, trout are very plentiful this season, and in first rate condition. The trout fishing generally begins on the 1st of March, but this year it does not commence until the 1st of April, only by special permission. That gives visitors a fair chance later in the spring. Two gentlemen visitors on Tuesday fished for a few hours at Brendon, and caught over four dozen of very fine fish; likewise they took a good basket on Wednesday. If the weather continues mild as it now is, there will be some splendid baskets taken through April.—M. BEVAN.

Medway (Tonbridge).

Before this appears in print the coarse fishing will be closed by Act of Parliament for three months, commencing on Friday at midnight. None too early either, for it has been murder to kill pike for this fortnight, female fish particularly. The fish are spawning nicely, and as a large number are to be found on the beds, the benefit of preservation can be seen above the town on the more strictly preserved portions of the water where the sewage runs thence.—YE MEDWAY WATER RAT.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

The warm weather has sent the pike into the spawning beds, where they have the best wishes of their friends. On the 16th Foster succeeded in trapping another otter below the town. It was a vixen, and weighed 11½ lb. The animal was presented to Mr. T. Elliott, of Tunbridge Wells, for preservation. At a meeting of the Local Society, on Monday evening, it was decided to oppose a drainage scheme which would discharge its effluent into some of the tributary streams above the town, and also to stop up other streams to prevent boats entering during the spawning season of the bream and roach.—YE MEDWAY WATER RAT.

Moy, Ballina, and Lough Conn.

Owing to the stormy, wet weather we have had lately, river and lake still too high for any sort of good angling.—FRANK HEARNS.

Oulton Broad and Dyke (Lowestoft).

An unsuccessful pike fishing is now at a close, and the roach fishing is coming on fast. Some very good takes have been made by local men, and I have no doubt that general fishing will be good as the time comes round for the different fish, the waters during the fine weather we have had, being alive with them. A fine sea trout was taken on the broad yesterday by a Mr. T. Jones, recently come to live here, which he has sent to Cooper, of St. Luke's, to be set up; it weighed 4 lb.—GEO. MASON.

Severn (Shrewsbury).

The Severn is now in good condition for spinning, and I am informed that a young man named Easthope took a 2 lb. trout at the confluence of the Severn and Rea Brook. Mr. Perkins, Wyle Cop, landed a splendid trout of 3 lb., also one of 1 lb. and a smaller one, all with the minnow. Mr. Clewitt had three, but they were not large, although in good condition. Mr. Edwards, the Bull Inn, met with and landed one by the Railway Bridge, ½ lb., bottom fishing. All the above were taken on Monday this week, and on Tuesday I saw a trout of over ½ lb., which Mr. Ellis had just landed below the Railway Bridge; and I understand he played, but missed, a good one by the Welsh Bridge, breaking his tackle into the bargain. Saving a little early in the morning, I have not had an opportunity of trying my hand, only landing one this year, and having a run by a trout of from 2 to 3 lb., which followed the minnow to within a foot of dry land. Spinning seems to do well from nine to twelve noon. The Severn will soon be fit for fly-fishing.—SEVERN GRAYLING.

Taw and Tributaries (North Devon).

The rivers, since my last report, are still in good order, and the east wind, which for years has deterred gents from fishing, have not this year been upon us to inconvenience the fisherman. The streams are full of fish; the high floods have taken all the old kilts back, so that they cannot be to blame for eating up the trout as some years have been the cry. I am told by the net fishermen new salmon are running up, and no doubt this season salmon fishing will be early. I have heard of a few good early dishes of trout, one catch, 30 in the Bray; another, 25 fish in the Yeo; another, three dozen in the Bratton water; another, 14 in the Braunton; and I have heard of 40 in the lower Bray, and a few catches, but the numbers are small in the Mole. The lower Taw

does not open until April, when salmon fishing commences. The ordinary spring flies are killing.—RUSTY GAME.

Tay (Perth).

The river is again coming into better ply, having fallen considerably. On Monday, the Derculich keeper had a fish of 16 lb. Captain Hotchkis, who has been staying at Logierait Hotel for the past fortnight, left for the South on Thursday last, after having got pretty fair sport on the Hotel and Kinnaird waters, considering the unsettled state of the river during his stay. The Logierait Hotel water generally fishes pretty well when heavy. Captain Hotchkis captured in nine days ten fish, weighing 157 lb. The black dog fly was the favourite one. At Isla Mouth yesterday, Major Curtis killed a fine fish of 17 lb., and landed six kelts. At Cargill, yesterday, Mr. G. M. Keelson and Mr. Thomas landed two fish.

Teme (Ludlow).

The weather this week has been remarkably fine, and the rivers all that an angler could wish for, the streams all having gone down and are now perfectly clear. At midday the fly is quite strong on the water, and the Teme and its tributaries have been pretty well visited. Most of the fish have been killed with the "claret body." A splendid lot of trout were taken on Tuesday by a gentleman in the Clun with this fly. The fish averaged ¾ lb. each, and were in first rate condition. A visitor to the Corve on Monday secured some fine trout up the Felton waters, and again killed five brace up in the same quarter on Wednesday. One or two days' fishing in Onibury waters, from Bromfield to a little above Wooton, resulted in nothing extraordinary, eleven trout being all that was caught in the two days. We have not heard of any fishing at all in the Leintwardine Club District, which is somewhat strange for this time of the year. The Letwyche is also quiet, and has been for some time. Some nice trout have been landed from the Teme between Steventon and Ashford, and a few below the New Bridge. A very cold wind is blowing to-day (Thursday) from the west, making the riverside anything but pleasant, short scuds of hail and rain passing over at intervals.—S. LUDLOW.

Teme (Tenbury).

The water of this part is now in splendid order for the fly, having gone down and cleared considerably; the fish are now rising freely at the March brown, and the claret-bodied flies. Some good trout were taken with the March brown on Saturday below the town, and a very nice dish was taken near the bridge with the claret-bodied fly. A good basket was taken near Little Hereford Bridge on Monday, with the fly. A nice lot of fish were caught below the bridge on Tuesday with the fly, and a few nice trout were landed down the water the same day. On Wednesday a gent had some very good sport near the town with the fly, landing a very good basket of 7 lb. of very fine trout. A gent tried the worm on Wednesday, but with very poor sport, as they would not bite, the water being too fine at present. The Kyre is now in very good order for fishing. On Thursday a very good dish of three brace of trout were taken, and on Friday another nice lot was taken with the worm; there was a little sport had on Tuesday with the same bait. The Ledwyche are now clear and in very good fishing order, the fish are rising well in them, but there has been but little doing in them yet.—WORCESTER.

Torridge (Torrington).

River in good order for fly fishing. Lots of trout have been taken this week. Now is the time for strangers to come and get some fishing, and gather primroses, and hear the birds sing. The March browns are well on, and this will improve the trout.—PRACTICAL ANGLER.

Trent (Nottingham).

The close season is virtually at an end, but a few items of sport have come under my observation since the 14th. On that day a Derby gentleman trying for salmon in a favourite reach above Willington Bridge, caught a fresh run fish, besides a trout of about 2½ lb. On Monday, in the same length, two very fine salmon were taken with the spinner, and on Tuesday a couple of fish, the heaviest 19 lb. were forthcoming from the King's Mills Fishery. Salmon this season seem unusually plentiful in the upper waters of the Trent, and I shall be much disappointed if in the next few weeks I have not even better sport than that now recorded to chronicle. Two Nottingham men on the 14th, or early in the morning of the 15th, were caught near Gunthorpe, with nets and upwards of seven stones of coarse fish in their possession. Proceedings have been taken against them.—THE MAN AT THE CLUBS.

Tweed and Teviot.

The sport got on these rivers since our last has, generally speaking, been poor, owing to the rivers being more or less out of condition for fishing, rendering salmon angling nearly nil. On the Sprouston water, on Wednesday, March 12, Mr. Charles Kerss killed two salmon; but none were killed on any of the other casts that day. Trout fishing, however, has proceeded apace, and some very good baskets have been got. On Thursday, on the Tweed, Mr. Thomas Johnstone, Kelso, and Mr. James Robertson, Kelso, killed 12 lb. of trout; and on the Teviot, baskets of from 3 lb. up to 5 lb. were got. Angling was impracticable on Friday, the gauge at Kelso Bridge registering four feet of flood water. On Saturday, however, anglers were out in numbers, and a few excellent baskets of trout were got on the Eden; Mr. David Brown, Kelso, had 6 lb. on the Teviot; Mr. Preston, 5 lb. on the Teviot; Mr. John Wood, Kelso, had a similar take on the same river. On the Tweed, Mr. Thomas Dickson, fishing-rod maker, had about 7 lb., including one trout, of 3 lb. 2 oz. Many smaller baskets, of from 3 lb. to 4 lb., were also got on both rivers. On Monday the rivers had fined down, but still were not a good colour for angling; and although the disciples of old Isaac were out, but little was done. On the Corham water, Mr. Hay-Gordon, Liverpool, got two salmon, 10 lb. and 17½ lb. On the Ednam House water, Mr. Drummond killed one, of 7 lb.; and on the Sprouston water, Mr. Marshall, Newcastle, had one of 9 lb. Tuesday, on the lower Hendersyde water, Mr. Mayor killed one fish, of 10 lb. Tweed Net Fishings.—The reports from Berwick state that the fishings are very satisfactory at present, scarcely any salmon being got; and prices have risen, salmon and trout selling at 2s. 3d. per lb.—MAXWHEEL, Kelso.

Waveney (Beccles).

Water first class, and could not be better for all round fishing than at present time. Mr. W. Oldham had a good basket of roach on Saturday last weighing one stone. The fish are working up to spawning ground, and plenty of fish may be had in the direction of the locks. Pike have already begun to spawn, and it is almost a pity to take them. Wind, S.W., and general prospects good.—A WAVENEY ANGLER.

Wharfe (Yorkshire).

Last Saturday being the opening day on the Otley Club water, a goodly

number of members turned out to do honour to the occasion. The result of their endeavours, however, was, I regret to say, only very meagre. Mr. Wilkinson, of Otley, caught, I believe, the best dish of the day, some 5 or 6 brace of fair sized fish, while the others averaged from 1 to 2 brace each. Mr. C. E. Porritt, of Leeds, has also caught a few brace during the present week, but matters at present are very quiet in this district. Sport has been better on the lower waters of the Yore. Mr. Gel, of Ripon, also Mr. W. Pickard, of the same place, both caught nice dishes of trout, with March browns, dressed from dark woodcock, body ribbed with gold thread. I have just hit upon a capital pattern for the iron blue dun. Few aquatic insects are more deadly in their season than this one, but it is a very difficult matter to imitate the exact shade of wing. Mr. Cummins, of Bishop Auckland, has dressed me some from this pattern, and they are simply perfection. I enclose one to our worthy editor for his inspection, and should be glad to hear his opinion on the subject. I shall anxiously watch for the appearance of the natural fly, so that I may try this new pattern, and will then report result. I may add that Mr. Palliser, of Lintz Green, near Durham, first gave me the idea, by drawing my attention to the value of some of the feathers to be found in the smaller varieties of English wild birds.—FRANCIS M. WALBRAN.

Wye and Derwent.

Both the Wye and Derwent are now getting into good order for fly-fishing, especially the higher lengths of both rivers; and if the weather only keeps fine, good baskets ought to be made next week, as the natural flies have been out strong on most days during the week. The bottom fishers on the Derwent (the private waters) have landed some good baskets of mixed fish, with worms for baits. I hear of Mr. Bates killing 12½ brace of good grayling, in one day; and C. West has also been killing some good fish, viz., trout, grayling and perch; and several others have had nice little creels. The trollers have killed some nice trout with the "Derby Trout Killer," been Matlock, Fath and Darley, several of the fish being over a pound apiece. Fishing prospects are looking well for next week.—GEO. JAS. EATON.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

We have had some beautiful fine weather the whole of the week, but the wind has been very rough and boisterous on most days, which has made it very bad for the fly-fishers but still there have been some fair dishes of fish killed,—chiefly grayling, along with a few trout. The fresh rule of the Fresh Water Fisheries Act has completely put a stop to the taking of grayling after March 15th. This rule has caused a lot of annoyance to a good many gentlemen in this district who used to catch a good many of the "non-spawners" during this month. Trolling in the Derwent, about Matlock, has been followed with fair success: the Derby trout-killer being the best artificial bait used. The worm-fishers have killed some good trout in different parts of the Derwent during the week. The weather to-night (Thursday) is very cold indeed, with a few hailstones falling.—GEORGE JAMES EATON.

Yare (Norwich).

The weather has been everything that could be desired, and many have been tempted to try their luck at coach fishing, and with varying success, as in one case reported to me two anglers caught 179 in the day, and in another, two very clever brethren of the rod, only succeeded in capturing two each after hours of patient waiting and watching. I am sorry to say that some sportsmen (so-called) are still after the pike, and I am informed that last Tuesday some 29 or more jack were killed in private water (how?). One gent told me he saw one broken rod; so, of course, I was left to suppose they must all have been fairly caught, and if so, I still think it a great pity to take them now. All anglers should keep their weather eye open for those wretches who silently and craftily watch the dykes for jack at this season, and snare even the smallest that their eye may chance to fall on. An example ought to be made of some of these, who, I am told on good authority, are busily at work in the vicinity of Thorpe Asylum and at Truwell. Brother anglers will perhaps make a note of this, and endeavour to put a stop to this practice, which, in many cases, is practised in ignorance of the harm it does. The Yare Society has elected the Rev. Sir Wm. Vincent, Bart., president this year, and everything in connection with the society looks exceedingly prosperous.—ROBERT MOLL.

Yore (Hawes).

I really wonder how Mr. Skidmore and Mr. Ford feel after perusing "Silver Grey's" report of last week, in which he reports the Ven. Archdeacon of my native city killing 11 lb., and Mr. J. B. Slater as taking thirty fish, and having picked ninety. Surely my fellow-citizen must have made a mistake! Can I believe my own optics that such feats are possible in a salmon-trout stream! Surely Messrs. Ford and Skidmore must be past all redemption if, after this, they continue to assert that salmon are destructive to trout fishing. I often wonder none of the great pike fishers ever try the Lunc. Pike are very plentiful in parts of the river about Melling, Tunstall, Hornby, and Cloughton. I have sometimes killed 30 and 40 lb. in a day in a very unworkmanlike style. As pike fishing is almost totally ignored in the district named, they are very numerous. Behind Ancholme Church I have sometimes counted as far as a score in one hole. All the large holes and backwaters swarm with them. In the hot days of March I have seen some veterans sunning themselves just under the surface. Many a one have I struck, and many a one have I seen shot. Old Seed, the watcher, has killed scores, throwing the bait by hand, and drawing it back to his feet, using no rod in the operation. I never saw any one else try for them in the same style. We had a nice fresh on Thursday last, and several nice baskets were got. A neighbour of mine got 5½ lb.—the best catch I have heard of—although many anglers got from four to seventeen fish. I have no "great ones" to record, but I have heard of one estimated at 2½ lb. having broken an angler. The weather is quite summer-like, but I anticipate a change before the week end.—JOSEPH CORY.

society and its members, of whom I am proud to be one, before he rashly rushed into print.

To begin with, I may inform him that the Great Yarmouth Piscatorial Society does not consist "of a few innkeepers, who want to entice people from London," but of a considerable number of gentlemen amateur anglers banded together for the purpose of mutual support and assistance, many members of which belong, not only to Yarmouth, but to London and other fishing centres. True, we have amongst our members, who number about sixty, three or four gentlemen who are innkeepers; but surely because a man keeps an inn, a tavern, or an hotel, he is not, if otherwise found qualified, to be debarred from joining even a piscatorial society.

Amongst our members are to be found many of the best-known London anglers, and, so far as the Yarmouth members are concerned, by a perusal of the list, which will be supplied to any one desirous of having it, "J. B." would have for himself seen that the insinuation he throws out was an unfair, and I may say a dishonest one—dishonest because, just at the present time when we are in the midst of a battle, "Public Rights versus Riparian Rapacity," and when, to carry this battle to a successful issue, we may have from time to time to appeal to the public for assistance in the shape of funds, J. B., in his letter, throws out all sorts of insinuations, which I say emphatically are devoid both of truth and fairness.

Concerning the case at issue—"Re Heigham Sounds"—we as a society have employed the very highest legal advice that money could obtain. During the first hearing of the case at Smallburgh, Sims Reeves, a barrister of the highest repute in this district, defended us, and, acting under his advice, backed up by that of our own legal advisers, Messrs. Harmer and Ruddock, of this town, we have carried on this case, and if, as it happened, the case were not correctly stated in Court, that was no fault of ours, but lay entirely with the justices; and as a proof of this, the judges who tried the case at the Court of Queen's Bench sent the case back to where it had come from to be restated, and the justices at Smallburgh will now have to state as fully as possible the grounds upon which they base their belief that the water in question is non-tidal, and their reasons for having convicted the appellant for trespass.

According to "J. B.'s" own showing, the case was adjourned from one day till the next for the production of the notes of the magistrates, and when the next day came put back indefinitely for the magistrates to supply these notes.

How he can attribute any blame to us as a society, or to our secretary, Mr. Lark, for (to say the least of it) this piece of gross negligence on the part of the magistrates or their clerk, is more than I can make out; unless it be that the writer, at the time he wrote the letter in question, was suffering from a bilious attack, and consequently may have seen things upside-down; or perhaps he may have been in the incipient stage of a certain form of biliousness, and saw things double.

For the information of "J. B." and others who will not take the trouble to read the case up, I may state the case is being fought upon the question as to whether the water is tidal or not. We have always held it to be tidal, and in proof of our belief we adduced at the Smallburgh trial six or seven witnesses, all of whom knew the waters well, two of them in particular really constituting the authority on river tides in his district. These witnesses swore in evidence that the waters on Heigham Sounds were tidal; but supposing six hundred thousand had sworn the same thing before the same tribunal, it would have made no difference to the verdict, because the justices, being themselves landowners, all friendly one with another, and two of them at least claimants to certain riparian encroachments, had decided to convict, and did so.

Considering that we were not served with summonses till a certain Thursday, and that the case came on for hearing on the following Tuesday, I do think the case was well put together under the circumstances.

Had we been allowed to issue affidavits, we should have had the tides tested by an efficient engineer, and the results placed before the judges as evidence; but this, for some legal reason, we were not allowed to do.

What was stated by our witnesses during the hearing of the case, concerning the tides, was that the tide regularly ebbed and flowed all the year round, and that on an average of something like thirteen times a year, so much did the tide flow that the water was rendered, during each of those thirteen times, "spring tides," slightly salt or brackish, and so much so on some occasions that the fresh water fish which did not recede before the approaching tide, were found in considerable quantities on their backs, either dying or dead.

Now, Mr. Editor, the above, I consider, is a fairly lucid exposition of the case, so far as it has gone, and I do think that people, who appear to know nothing about it, ought in future to delay writing until they learn something concerning it. This I ask in common fairness.—I am, &c.,

ALEXANDER MITCHELL, M.D.,

President of the Great Yarmouth Piscatorial Society.

Burton Lodge, Great Yarmouth,

March 11th.

["J. B." ought to know as much about this case as anyone, and we are glad his letter has brought such a satisfactory reply from Dr. Mitchell.—ED.]

MR. KELSON'S ARTICLES.

SIR,—As the above gentleman has kindly volunteered to give any further explanation of this article, may I ask you to let me know the advantages of the new fishing jacket?—I am, &c., A. SIMKINS, Eaton Rise, Ealing.

R. B. MARSTON, Esq.

[The new fishing jacket was introduced by Major Philpot, one of our best salmon anglers. The braces can be worn under, instead of over, as is usual with others, and it being made to overlap the wading trousers the least trifle, it does not get wet in a deep pool. The pockets in the sleeves are very useful in addition to those on the breast. The great advantage as well as comfort and convenience is that evaporation is not impeded, and therefore the seeds of rheumatism are never sown.—G. M. KELSON.]

CORRESPONDENCE.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

HEIGHAM SOUNDS FISHING RIGHTS.

SIR,—It is with a considerable amount of annoyance that, as one of the members of the Great Yarmouth Piscatorial Society, I am obliged to answer the letter on the above subject signed "J. B." in your issue of the 8th inst.

I do consider that "J. B." ought to have satisfied himself personally as to the truth of certain disparaging remarks he makes respecting the above

A WATERPROOF WANTED FOR HERRING NETS.

SIR,—I belong to the Manchester Fishing Club, also a subscriber to your GAZETTE, and will be glad if you can let me know what and how they use waterproofing for herring nets.

I have a net 30 feet round and 20 feet long, and wish to use it in pits and canals to catch small bait for pike fishing, &c., &c., and before I wet it I want to waterproof it or preserve it.

A reply through your columns will greatly oblige.—I am, &c.,

Manchester.

WM. J. HOWARD.

[Will one of our readers kindly give us the recipe for the tan dressing used for these nets?—ED.]

FLOATING FLIES ON EYED-HOOKS.

SIR,—Some time ago (in August, 1882), in response to a request in the *Field*, I described the method I employ in tying small flies on eyed-hooks. A few months later, I was requested to reprint these hints in the *FISHING GAZETTE*, and they appeared on November 25th. In previous numbers of the *Field* reference had been made to the great value of eyed-hooks for fine and delicate fishing in windy weather, but it was remarked by the writer (Mr. Francis) that they did not make quite so neat a fly, and that there was a tendency for the eye to get choked up with feather, silk, or varnish. The method I use obviates all this, as my description of November 25th, 1882, clearly shows. The wings sit well up, the body tapers naturally, the hackle is wound on last, as it should be undoubtedly for a floating fly, the tying off is done behind the wing, and the eye is left clean and clear.

I have had no reason to alter my opinion since I wrote the letters I am referring to, and I am ready to endorse every word I then wrote, while my own conviction has been strengthened again and again by the unqualified approval of a large number of the most celebrated anglers and amateur fly-tiers.

I do not wish for a moment to disparage the wonderfully neat and pretty flies sold by some of the best makers, but it must be a matter of common experience that by many tiers a tiny dun, which is neat and effective when tied to gut in the old way, becomes a somewhat clumsy, ugly thing, with a large, unwieldy head, when tied on an eyed-hook of the same size.

Until it is recognised that some such method as that advocated by me must be adopted for small duns on eyed-hooks, we shall continue to have the eyes closed up with feather and shellac varnish, and our cocky little olives and iron blues will be tied with wings sloping back over the body in a manner at once unnatural and unsuitable for a floating fly.

During the correspondence on flies, amateur and professional, which was carried on in the *FISHING GAZETTE* two or three months ago, I had several letters addressed to me by strangers in different places, asking for a loan of a few flies. One of these was a man of twenty years' experience as a practical fly-fisher and fly-maker, and he was so much pleased with my patterns and suggestions that he resolved to abandon his own long-established habits and system and take to mine, which he recognised as superior to all his former notions. He immediately began to practise, avowing his intention of tying flies solely on eyed hooks, and carrying out my instructions to the letter unless otherwise requested. He has had a good many patterns from me during the last two months, and has copied them, and sent his attempts for my criticism and suggestions, and the result is that he now turns out a floating fly which it would be very difficult to beat. I have sent samples of his handiwork to a few of my own intimate friends, and he has had some very large orders already. Altogether he has tied about 150 dozen choice flies in the last three or four weeks, and now that the season is getting on, as I never make any secrets in angling matters, I think there may be some anglers who will be glad to hear of him, and give his flies a trial. If so, let them write without delay to Mr. George Holland, 4, Cook Street, Fallowfield, near Manchester, and inclose stamps for a sample half-dozen. His terms are 2s. a dozen for hackle flies, 2s. 6d. for winged flies, and 5s. a dozen for flies with semi detached bodies, most delicately made of indiarubber or horse-hair. With regard to this last class of flies, I may say that I have tied and used them most successfully for several years, having been put up to them in the first instance by Mr. Adam when his beautiful book came out six or seven years ago.

There is absolutely no advantage whatever in the detached body, except in so far as it is semi-transparent and life-like, and it is only for a few delicate ephemerals that I ever adopt this style of tying, and these are invaluable, and have brought true sport again and again when all else failed. But they must be true to nature or they are worthless, and I mention this because since I drew attention to these flies in the *FISHING GAZETTE* some time ago, several tiers have been trying their hands upon them, and in some cases they are advertising and selling (or rather attempting to sell, for the sale is not likely to be large) as "detached bodied duns" flies of the rudest manufacture, which bear very slight resemblance to the natural insects they are intended to imitate.

I don't think this fault will be found with Mr. Holland's flies; some of the latest seem to be most skilfully made, and, in my opinion, they far surpass any of this class that have ever been offered for sale. It must be remembered that the flies are all made with folded and divided wings, as described in my letter of Nov. 25th, 1882, though anyone who stipulates for a neat undivided plume in each wing can possibly get it for the asking. At the same time, I repeat what I have written again and again, that the fly which kills best is that which fishes best, and which is not spoilt and knocked out of shape by half-an-hour's soaking. If a fly floats as well, looks as well, and kills as well after a couple of days' use as it does when it is put on new, it has merits which will be recognised by all anglers of any experience. I have frequently proved that flies of mine have these merits, and I have reason to believe that Mr. Holland's will possess them in an equal degree.

In conclusion, I have only to suggest that anglers should not expect to get their flies by next post; indeed, they should give plenty of time, as one pair of hands cannot keep pace with orders coming in fast, especially as Mr. Holland has to give some attention to another trade besides fly-making. Just now he is as busy as he can be; but, as he has a good selection of all the best Hampshire patterns to work from, another season he will have turned the winter months to account, and will have in stock all the standard spring flies in readiness when the orders begin to come in.—I am, &c., H. S. HALL.

P. S.—I have had five dozen flies tied to my patterns, and they are first-rate. When I wrote the above notice of Mr. Holland's flies some weeks ago, I had no idea that any one else was in the field. Mrs. Cox, of Winchester, has, with her usual enterprise, recognised that by supplying flies tied on the principles advocated by me she will meet a very general want, and she has just forwarded me some patterns which, in common fairness, I feel bound to notice without delay. Mrs. Cox's people are new to this style, but they will not be long before they pick it up and master it. Henceforth Mr. Holland and Mrs. Cox will be formidable rivals; but there is room for both, and I wish them both the success they deserve.

Tuesday, March 18.

[Our fly-fishing readers will remember how we have frequently said, when noticing specimens of Mr. H. S. Hall's own amateur work in fly-making, that we wished he was a professional, and sold such flies. We were, therefore, glad to find that the correspondence about flies which appeared in this paper brought Mr. Hall in contact with a professional fly-maker, who was willing to admit that the amateur could beat professional in this case, and who has wisely taken lessons from the amateur. Mr. Hall sent us a few samples of Holland's work recently, and we immediately ordered several dozens on eyed-hooks. Mr. H. will certainly have to give up his "other business," i.e., if he makes up his mind not to send out a single fly which he would not care to send to Mr. Hall; in fact, he should remember the time, trouble, and pains Mr. Hall has been to in teaching him,

and that, to a certain extent, every fly he sells may be said to be "Hall" marked, and he (Mr. Holland) must keep up to this high standard. We must thank Mr. Hall for the great benefits he has so liberally given to fly-fishers. In the present number he has given, at our suggestion, an excellent description of some leading chalk stream flies, and how to dress them.—ED.]

"I. C. U." AND THE "OLD RIVER."

SIR,—I see, in last week's issue of your valuable paper, Captain Etheridge appears to doubt the fact of the old river, or fleet, being netted or poached. I have fished the stretch of water for years, and have repeatedly seen an old punt chained to a tree, up a ditch running from the railway line into the Thames. I have often thought it belonged to someone who did a little fishing on the quiet at night; for, although I kept my punt near the spot for nearly three years, I never saw anyone using the old one, but often saw signs of its having been used.

I was fishing close to this particular ditch, some months since. It was just getting dusk, when three men came towards me, carrying a large basket; they did not appear to see me until close, when they turned away and walked down stream. Soon I heard sounds of night lines being thrown in. I kept watch and saw I was not mistaken; the men were poachers, and their business just then was laying night lines.

When I arrived in London I at once wrote to the secretary of the Windsor and Eton Angling Association, to tell him what I had seen, and he wrote me in answer to the effect that "this society were about to make a special attempt to catch the poachers who infested the Old Fleet. The keeper Gray went in fear of them, they having threatened him several times."

This stretch of water should be one of the best in the Thames, for an angler's greatest curse, a steam launch, is never seen there.—I am, &c., T. HOOLE.

NOT THE "ONLY EEL POUT."

SIR,—In your issue of March 8 I notice a letter from one of your correspondents (Mr. H. G. Merlin), who states the only "Eel Pout" or "Burbot" in the late International Fisheries Exhibition was exhibited by Mr. Howlett, of Newmarket. If Mr. Merlin will refer to No. 862, page 174, in the Catalogue, he will find there was another specimen of this class of fish exhibited by me, and that it was a quarter of a pound heavier than that of Mr. Howlett's, but unfortunately was put in a corner and not seen to advantage.—I am, &c., W. FOOR.

Waterside North, Lincoln, March 13.

FISHING NEAR PARIS.

SIR,—I wrote to you some time since a letter requesting your favour with regard to fishing within a short distance of Paris, and any information you could supply me with through medium of *GAZETTE*, which I am in the habit of having sent me.

Three numbers of the paper have appeared since the communication referred to, and I have not found the slightest notice bearing on it. As the letter has not been returned, I conclude it has reached you, and the treatment appears somewhat discourteous; but from what I have heard of you from some of your personal acquaintances, I do not believe you would willingly be discourteous. My letter may have appeared frivolous, but I wish to obtain information, if possible, from some who have fished near here. The "Anglers' Diary" gives something—but I wished for more, and thought the *GAZETTE* was the correct medium for me to apply to.—I am, &c., H. A.

Grand Hotel de Tours, Rue Jacob, Quartier Latin, Paris.

March 10.

[We can assure Mr. Arnold that we not only received his request, but are endeavouring to obtain information for him. The delay in the appearance of the "Anglers' Diary" for 1884, in which we thought there might be further information, caused us to keep the query back. However, it appears there is nothing new about France in this edition to help our correspondent. If any of our readers know anything of the fishing within ten or twenty miles of Paris we trust they will kindly inform us. P. S.—We are since informed by a correspondent we had applied to in Paris that the most likely person to give information is M. Carbonnier, 20, Quai du Louvre. M. C. is a fish breeder, &c., and is likely to know many anglers.—ED.]

BLOATERS.

SIR,—Will you or any readers of the *FISHING GAZETTE* be kind enough to inform me whether Yarmouth bloaters are white herrings before they are cured? If not, what kind of fish are they?

Some are called "ham-cured," and some "half-cured." Could you inform me how they are cured. If not, can you inform me where I may get the information from?—I am, &c., BLOATER.

Duffield, near Derby.

[The bloater is a cured herring. Will see if we can find some recipes.—ED.]

THE NATIONAL FISH CULTURE ASSOCIATION.

SIR,—Those who are interested in fish culture will be glad to read the notice which appeared in your paper on the 16th ult. with respect to the arrangement between the Council of the Health Exhibition and the National Fish Culture Association being intended for the proper management of the Fisheries Aquarium during the forthcoming exhibition, and for the contemplated experiments on the important subject of fish culture. As this can be a temporary arrangement only, terminating at the expiration of the exhibition itself, it would be beneficial if the aquarium could eventually remain permanently attached to the Buckland Museum. This might be, as the writer before stated in your paper, considerably enlarged, and thus, with the co-operation of the National Fish Culture Association, made what it should be—an excellent school of instruction for the improvement and development of our extensive and valuable inland and sea fisheries, and become an institution worthy of a nation whose fishing industries probably give employment to more people and return a larger income than any of a similar description in the world. The late Fishery Exhibition displayed on a larger scale what the Buckland Museum should become, consistently with the lesser area that must necessarily be allotted to it. All the latest inventions and appliances connected with fishing gear, and the improvement and protection of fisheries, should be exhibited in such a museum with all the best and most approved methods of fish culture that can conveniently be carried on there. Observations made and noted might be kept of the best and most economical methods of feeding and rearing all kinds of fish suitable for and capable of artificial cultivation. The general opinion being that most of the

"Salmonidae" thrive best on insect food, the study of insect life, abounding in rivers, ponds, and streams, will no doubt be found one of the most important features in connection with the improvement of our inland fisheries, also the study of the various water plants necessary for their existence.

Specimens of these insects and plants should be shown there, and the most useful cultivated for the benefit and instruction of pisciculturalists. Specimens of live fish suitable for acclimatisation should be shown, with full details of their value and habits, and specimens of preserved fish exhibited.

The methods of obtaining the ova and hatching the fry of "Salmonidae" have been fully treated by several practical pisciculturalists in various publications, more especially in your own journal, and the modes are well known to be attended with every success; but the important problem now to be solved is the best means of keeping in health the largest quantity of store or mature fish of this species in the smallest space, coupled with a limited supply of water, and to ascertain the least costly and the best kind of food suitable for them under such conditions.

These subjects have apparently not been so satisfactorily treated or experimented upon, and the results made known, as other matters connected with fish propagation; therefore, much has probably to be learned before fish culture is made an extensive commercial success.

Atmospheric temperature, the nature of the water supply, and of locality having great influence in matters relating to fish culture, the knowledge of these conditions would no doubt greatly contribute to the success of any undertaking in reference thereto. Experiments might also be made in crossing the different breeds of "Salmonidae" and other fish, with the endeavour of producing the same improvement in species that has resulted by such means with land animals.

The best method of packing ova for removal and for sea voyages is another important matter to be ascertained, and the duration of time that the ova will keep in good condition when packed and exposed to varying degrees of temperature.

It has been stated that the harvest of the sea is inexhaustible. This statement may be correct when applied to the whole extent of the ocean; but as respects our own coasts it is certainly not accurate, as, for instance, the supply of oysters has been much decreased, and that of other fish threatened through injudicious dredging, trawling, and other injurious operations. This proves how necessary it is that the study of the cultivation and of the habits of fish should be encouraged, and every facility for instruction given to enable proper care and protection to be exercised in order that the increasing demand may always be fully supplied.

It is to be hoped that the contemplated proceedings of the National Fish Culture Association at South Kensington will develop into a permanent institution, and tend to bring about these most desirable results, to which all most heartily wish success. As we have now but one Inspector of English Fisheries, probably the insufficiency will be to some extent remedied by the anticipated help that will be given by the National Fish Culture Association in promoting the welfare of English fisheries which are now so much neglected, and that some of the lessons taught at the late Great International Fisheries Exhibition will yet be turned to beneficial account.

The fisheries of other nations—Canada and the United States, for instance—derive grants from their Governments for the purpose of fish culture, which is extensively carried out in those countries. The great demand for the produce of the sea, the large incomes derived from salmon rivers, the high rental paid for trout and other fisheries in this country, prove that the cultivation and protection of water produce is far more profitable than that of land, and yet our fisheries appear to be the most neglected of all other industries. May the day not be far distant when all our rivers and streams are freed from pollutions, and upon them be situated in every eligible locality a well-managed fish culture establishment—benefits likely to be obtained through the energetic influence and example of the National Fish Culture Association, and, by calling attention to the neglected state of our fisheries, show how much can be done towards their improvement; and further, induce our Government to grant to them the like pecuniary assistance extended to other less wealthy nations by their Governments.—I am, &c.,

R. D. E.

THE EXCLUSION OF SEWAGE FROM RIVERS.

SIR,—An excellent paper, entitled "The Preservation of Fish Life in Rivers by the Exclusion of Town Sewage," was read by the Hon. W. F. B. Mainwaring, at a conference held at the Great International Fisheries Exhibition. The subject was strengthened and fully supported by the information obtained in the discussion which followed. An earnest appeal was made by the reader of the paper to the representatives of the press, requesting their aid to bring the matter more prominently before the public. This request has apparently passed unnoticed, as it appears no reference has since been made by the press to this paper, which was one of the most important that was read during the conferences at the Exhibition. It is to be hoped that the question of river pollution will again be brought forward at the forthcoming International Health Exhibition. The purification of rivers and streams is a matter of such great importance and magnitude with respect to public health, to the improvement of inland fisheries, and to the useful products arising therefrom for the cultivation of the land, that the rapid increase of population must soon call for some stringent measures to check the growing evil of pollutions, which now threaten to considerably decrease the natural supply of pure water available for the use of large cities and towns, and also tend towards contaminating the flow of every river and stream in the kingdom. The statement made by one gentleman present (a Government official) that 10,000 square miles in England out of 60,000 were utterly destroyed as fish bearing rivers by pollutions will give some idea of the extent to which the evil has at present reached. With respect to the remedy for this evil, another gentleman alluded to the process adopted at the town of Aylesbury, which he had taken pains to investigate, and by which process guano was manufactured from the sewage of that town. He was convinced, from what he saw, that it was possible to take the whole of the sewage of London, which was now passed into the river at Crossness, and convert it into useful manure. He had tried the manure so prepared on some of his own land, which was very poor, and found the article excellent for various crops. His statement was confirmed by other gentlemen present, who had, likewise, practical experience on this subject. A system known as the A B C process was shown at the Fisheries Exhibition, where there was a succession of tanks, in some of which fish were swimming about in water that had by this method been cleansed from sewage. This went far to prove that the chemical treatment of sewage could be carried out with great advantage. Further, from a statement made at the Conference, there is what is called the River Pollution Act, 1866, with sufficiently stringent powers, but the defect of the Act is that there is no one empowered to put it in force. One speaker stated that he believed the reading of the paper, and the unanimous expression of opinion of such a meeting, would do something towards the formation of a wholesome public opinion. This hope appears to have been only partially realised, for up to the present time but little notice has been taken of this particular subject connected with fish preservation. It appears that unless more active measures are taken to remedy the growing evil of pollutions, we may sooner or later expect to be visited by some great epidemic of the nature of the plague or cholera.—I am, &c.,

R. D. E.

[This subject is one of immense importance. We spent some time in examining the A B C process, as exhibited at the Fisheries Exhibition, and came to the conclusion, it was by far the best, and, indeed, only satisfactory method of treating sewage. We cannot think that the demand for too high a remuneration is the sole cause of its not being used generally. Then what is the cause of it?—ED.]

NETTING DITCHES NEAR MAIDENHEAD.

SIR,—Just a few lines giving you an account of a day's netting in ditches, in the district of Maidenhead, by the bailiffs of the Maidenhead, Cookham, and Bray Angling Association. On Monday, the 17th, jack 13, perch 172, roach 313, turned into the river at the end of Bray Beach. Not bad, as the floods have not been much this year.—I am, &c.,

HARRY WILDER, Head Bailiff.

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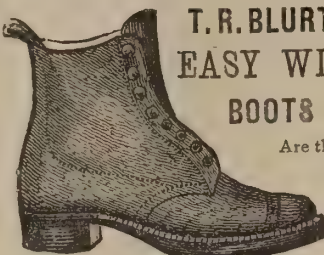
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Correspondents are requested to write on one side of the paper only, and give their real names and addresses, not necessarily as signatures to their letters, but as a guarantee of good faith. Unless this rule be adhered to, no notice will be taken of such communications.

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The Fishing Gazette.

SATURDAY, MARCH 29, 1884.

PISCATORIAL SCRAPS.

By I. C. U.

The Railway Concessions.—I regret to say that these great boons to the poorer anglers are in imminent danger of being withdrawn on account of their frequent abuse. The following is an extract from a letter written by Mr. Verinder, the traffic superintendent of the South-Western Railway, and read by Mr. Tibbatts to a meeting of the West Central Association, on the 21st inst.: "I may state for your information that these abuses are becoming so frequent that several of the railway companies are desirous of abolishing the cheap tickets, and it was only last week that I was asked for my concurrence in doing away with them altogether."

The president, Mr. P. Geen, said, "He could not help wondering if this would be sufficient to warn the anglers of London that the time had arrived for banding themselves together to protect their neglected interests, and to place these concessions in the hands of one committee to work it with one ticket, or will they prefer to slide on to the day, not far distant now, when these privileges would be a thing of the past. Railway companies cannot be expected to submit to be trifled with, and after giving us a first, and now a second warning, he, for one, fully expected that the next intimation would be one which would be very disastrous to the anglers' best interests; therefore he pleaded once more for amalgamation, which was the only possible remedy for this and many another failing."

Piscatorial "Adullamites".—During the past three years many anglers of acknowledged experience, ability, and energy have withdrawn themselves from societies to which they had belonged for lengthened periods, and it is said that antiquated fossilism which had forgotten what it knew, and amateur precociousness which, not too modestly, assumed a knowledge it had not, have each contributed to engendering feelings which led to the going out of these wise heads, whose places have not been filled. "David, therefore, departed thence; and escaped to the cave Adullam," and "Everyone that was in distress, and everyone that was in debt, and everyone that was discontented went to David in his place of retreat."

Their retreat is at "The Moorgate," Moorgate Street, where I. C. U. intends to visit them—if invited—and drink to their success—not a numerical success on paper so much as a social and intellectual one. My faith is sufficient to justify my christening them "The Adullamites," and their meeting room, "David's Cave." Why, their David, with his world-wide fame as the first jack fisher of our day, together with his ripe judgment on all piscatorial matters, should be a tower of strength in himself; while his captains, Messrs. Brett, Frost, and Clarke, should be competent to lead their followers on to successes which are not now dreamt of by precocious amateurs or antiquated fossils.

The Town Council, of Nottingham have for some time past

been considering the question of anglers' rights on the Trent, and in all probability they will decide to make application to Parliament for an Act to declare all navigable rivers free to anglers. Mr. W. A. Crump, the Treasurer of the Thames Rights Defence Association, has given the Town Council the benefit of his legal knowledge and researches in the matter, and he is no doubt pleased at the prospect of such a sensible solution of the difficulty.

Our "Exchange Column."—Anglers appear to be very slow in availing themselves of this medium to exchange or sell that which they must, in numerous instances, be desirous to dispose of. On the other hand, our Editor informs me, that a very large percentage of the articles offered have been purchased for the prices asked, thus showing plainly that we only require to screw our courage up to advertising, and we shall get rid of our, to us, useless articles, either by sale or exchange, for something required. A hint for our Editor:—It is just possible that a change of position would cause the column to be more generally noticed.

Extra special and important meeting of the Central Association.—The above association held a meeting on the 14th inst. at the Star and Garter, St. Martin's Lane. Two gentlemen only put in an appearance, but their efforts to do business were such as to entitle them to the lasting thanks of the clubs they so ably represented.

A letter was read at the West Central Association which had been received from John Foster, river-keeper, near Loudham. He is of opinion, "that the new Act will be a God-send to honest men, and the downfall of poaching." He has made a capture of "two poachers, forty yards of net, and 50 lb. of fish." It is quite evident from this that head river-keeper John Foster is neither umpiring or feasting.

The Piscatorial Society's smoking concert on Monday was an unqualified success, and I shall be within the mark in stating that on no previous occasion has there been so much first-class talent gathered together at an angler's smoking concert. I was present for over two hours, and had the pleasure of hearing some of our best songs splendidly sung, and free from those stage mannerisms and mouthings which so frequently spoil musical effect. All who know Mr. Blamey will say he deserves a host of friends: but it could hardly be expected that he had so many of such conspicuous vocal ability as came to help him in carrying out his self-imposed task of getting up this concert. Proof of Mr. Blamey's popularity came from every pair of lungs when his brother members and friends stood up, and with one accord sang, "For he's a jolly good fellow."

A funny episode of the concert.—Mr. Harrison having proposed the health of the chairman in a nice little speech, he called upon Mr. Crumplen, of the Gresham Club, to second it, and in doing so, Mr. Crumplen made an equally nice little speech, which concluded as follows:—"I am delighted to be present at such a successful gathering, and I am equally delighted to join with Mr. Harrison in asking you to drink the chairman's health. I hope to see Mr. Blamey fill the same position on many similar occasions, so that I may say to him then, as I say to him now, I. C. U. in the chair." There was a quiet laugh all round the room, which subsided into winkings and whisperings, which it was impossible for me to understand, as most probably each wink and whisper meant something different; but there was no mistaking the comparatively loud talk of my two immediate neighbours, which is worthy of a paragraph to itself.

No. 1. "There, I told you so. Did I not say that Blamey was I. C. U.?"

No. 2. "Well, yes, you have said so; but I cannot agree with you that what Crumplen said in any way confirms your suspicion. On the contrary, I look upon it as proof positive that my conjecture is the correct one, and that he writes them himself."

No. 1. "Stuff and nonsense, man, Crumplen is a new man, and as likely to know the facts given week by week as—well, say the man in the moon; while Blamey is a very old hand. It's Blamey, I tell you—I am sure it is."

No. 2. "There's a very old proverb that says, 'Out of the fulness of the heart the mouth speaketh,' and Mr. Crumplen is either I. C. U. or he dreams about him, or the letters would not have slipped from his tongue as they did just now."

How long the two friends disputed, and how they settled it, I cannot tell, as, fearing their verdict, I moved away. Just fancy being sat upon in this manner, and hearing it decided that you are not yourself, but somebody else.

Mr. T. Spreckley, the President of the Thames Angling Preservation Society, entertained members of his committee at a

dinner on Tuesday last. There were also present Captain Burstall, of the Conservancy, Mr. Senior, of the *Field*, Mr. J. P. Wheeldon, and other friends.

Dinners.—The Portsmouth Waltonian Angling Society's annual dinner will take place on Thursday, April 3rd. The president of the West Central Association has been invited, and has promised to attend.

The Waltonian Angling Society's dinner comes off on Wednesday, April 2nd, when many prominent anglers have promised to be present.

The Oxford Preservation Society's dinner came off on Thursday, under the presidency of A. Wheeler, Esq., Deputy-Mayor. I have only sufficient space this week to say that the dinner was a success, and that the representatives from kindred societies made some capital speeches which appeared to be highly appreciated. Messrs. Geen and Spreckley were present as representatives of the Thames Angling Preservation Society, and Mr. Butler from the Reading.

The Gresham dinner came off on Tuesday. I am not *au fait* of what transpired, but a dear old Irish friend of mine said, "And sure, my boy, our dinner was only a supper."

A smoking concert, in aid of the Thames Angling Preservation Society, has been determined on by a late member of that body, Mr. Blamey, who is sure to work it in such a manner as to bring in a substantial sum. The concert will be held at one of our largest halls, so as to afford an opportunity for the anglers of London to show that they can not only appreciate the work being done by the society, but also their desire to support such a zealous worker as Mr. Blamey. That the concert will be a first-class one cannot be doubted, and when it becomes known that Mrs. Blamey will not only lend the charm of her presence in aid of her husband's scheme, but that she will also sing, I feel sure we shall all be desirous of taking a note of the date on which this pleasing event is to come off.

The Richmond Piscatorial Society's smoking concert, on Wednesday last, was, if possible, more fully attended than usual, and "my dear friend, A. J. Little," who presided, was certainly in his very best form. The evening was a most enjoyable one, and I regret that I have not space for the names of those who distinguished themselves. A pleasing feature of the occasion was the appearance after his severe illness of their ex-chairman, Mr. F. C. Clench.

Our Editor.—I fear Mr. R. B. Marston's fishing trip to the North will not prove so pleasant and successful as we could wish. The winds here are sufficiently piercing to cause us to quite enjoy the fireside; but to fully understand how cold and marrow-freezing a north-east wind can be, you must have fished some of the reaches of the Tay in the month of March. Although not probable, it is possible that our Editor will re-appear amongst us laden with spoil; but I should have more faith in this sort of home coming had he sent a sample fish to

I. C. U.

NOTICES OF FLIES, &c.

NOTES ON FLIES FOR CHALK STREAMS.

(Continued).

IX.—FLIGHT'S FANCY.

THIS fly hails from Winchester, and it is very useful towards the end of April, when the olives are beginning to get lighter in shade, and all through the summer months a small "Flight" may be resorted to with confidence when delicate duns are about.

Body: pale yellow, or primrose, floss silk ribbed with fine flat gold tinsel.

Wings: light starling.

Legs and whisks: pale buff, or for a change, honey dun.

With this list of flies an angler may consider himself well equipped for the first two months of the season, and there are many days in every month of the summer and autumn when these same flies tied smaller would be found sufficient to ensure the best of sport. I don't much believe in dividing artificial flies according to months, and a good comprehensive assortment of spring patterns will, with slight modifications, always be of general use at all times and in all weathers. Still, there are some very favourite flies which do not appear before May, and as these sometimes entirely monopolise the attention of every feeding fish, they must be added to the list. I leave out the green and grey drake, as they are not found on every water, and almost every angler has his own special pattern; but, in my opinion, May flies are fre-

quently tied too large, and I believe whatever pattern be adopted the best sport will be obtained by small flies.

X.—THE BLACK GNAT.

Until last season I never had much faith in this fly. And yet I had encouragement enough in its use on a strange river a few years ago. It was a broiling hot August day; at mid-day I had killed nothing when the black gnat made its appearance and set all the trout feeding madly. In twenty minutes I stalked three fish and bagged them all, 1 lb. 5 oz., 1 lb. 6 oz., and 2½ lb. Since then I have occasionally had sport here and there with the black gnat, but last year I devised a new pattern which was most successful. The natural fly has a long, thin, shiny black body, not a bit like the fluffy little lump usually seen in the imitation. Then the wings are long and lie folded *quite flat* (not sloped like those of a sedge or alder), and projecting over the tail end of the body, showing a shiny, metallic, gauzy film, in strong contrast to the black body, and which cannot be imitated by feather. This is how I make my pattern. On a oo hook I first put a longish body of black ostrich herl, which has first been stripped. Then I cut a strip of pike scale the proper length and shape to represent the two folded wings and tie it flat on the top of the hook, taking care to show the projecting bit above mentioned. Then over and in front of the wing I take two or three turns of a small black starling's feather and the fly is finished. It does not float very well, but in fine, still weather it is very effective; and the pike scale, tied as I have described, will stand a great deal of whipping. I may here mention that, although I have used pike scales a good deal, I have not been favourably impressed with them for dry-fly fishing, partly because the flies so soon whip to pieces, and also because they don't sit up and float like the ordinary dun well tied with feather wings. The first day I tried this pattern I got seven fish with it. Then, a week afterwards, I was fishing the Kennet, at Hungerford, and one morning I hooked eight or nine brace, again and again rising and hooking a trout with the first cast of my black gnat. On several other days I did well with it, and in future I shall always consider it a good standard fly for summer use.

XI.—THE SEDGE.

The last two or three seasons this fly has not preserved its reputation as a standard pattern for late fishing on a summer's evening. It has been a mystery to many who used to look upon it as a never-failing resource. A few years ago it killed splendidly at Winchester; and I remember seeing a man come to the Old Barge Stream, at eight o'clock one evening in August, and kill five brace of good trout with his favourite sedge. He rarely used anything else in the evening; and I, myself, at that time fished it with more confidence than any other fly. But I have done very little with it lately, and my stock of sedges has not wanted replenishing for a long time. When the trout and grayling return to their old tastes again, this is the way to satisfy them.

(1) THE SILVER SEDGE, which I believe is no sedge at all, but an imitation of the small grass moth which flutters about in the meadows by the river side.

Body: white floss silk, ribbed with silver; hackled all over with buff or light red hackle.

Wings: landrail. Hook, oo to 1.

(2) THE RED SEDGE (or, Sedge proper).—Hook as before.

Body: red fur from hare's face, or fox's ear, or from the reddest part of an opossum skin. Rib it with gold thread, wind on a red hackle from tail to head, and wing it with a ruddy wing feather from a landrail's wing.

(3) THE BIG SEDGE.—This is the local name, but I prefer to call it the cinnamon. It is a fat, toothsome morsel, nearly an inch long, and answers capitally on a moonlight night, when it is warm, still, and free from mist. I have killed many heavy fish with it, especially in September, during the harvest moon. The dressing I prefer is the same as that given for the red sedge, on a No. 2 hook, and winged with the reddest part of a cock landrail's wing, or, better still, with one of the under covert feathers of the peahen, which are very faintly mottled with a darker shade of brown. Though true to nature, I think it is a mistake to dress the body thick, for the fly is apt to be heavy and lumpy, and so float badly.

XII.—THE ALDER

Is very useful in June, and on some rivers will kill in the May-fly season better than the drake itself. It is in great favour with the Fairford anglers, and the natural fly is very plentiful on the Colne.

Body: bronze-coloured peacock herl.

Hackle: black, or a dull-coloured feather, with black centre and ruddy tips.

Wings: from the tail feather of a hen pheasant.

There is another very good variety known as the button or red-

winged alder, which should be dressed as before, only that the wing should come from the red tail feather of a partridge.

Hook, No. 2.

XIII.—THE BROWN QUILL.

Very useful in August and September.

Body: some light quill dyed in Judson's light brown. I make it with fibres of a condor's feather—not easily obtainable by all—and it answers very well. Others have produced very good imitations by taking ordinary peacock quill and bleaching it, but I don't quite know how the process of bleaching is managed.

Legs and whisks: ginger.

Wings: medium starling.

Hook, oo.

XIV.—THE INDIAN YELLOW.

I have never done anything with this fly, but I have seen it out strongly on the Itchen, and the fish feeding ravenously when I had no good pattern to offer. Mr. Aldam's pattern is the only one, but the wing he recommends is very soft, and makes a poor fly for floating. It is a pity some other blue feather cannot be found suitable for this fly and the next.

Body: a delicate brown silk ribbed with bright yellow.

Legs and whisks: a rich buff.

Wings: from the under wing feathers of a young grouse.

Hook, oo.

This fly has a very prominent reddish-brown head. Mr. Aldam uses a couple of turns of a dark rich orange, which, when wet, is the exact shade of the natural fly.

XV.—THE BLUE-WINGED OLIVE.

This fly is larger than most of the duns of the summer months, and generally makes its appearances just at dusk, when it sometimes comes out in myriads.

At Winchester in September I have seen the river covered with it, and rising fish only a few yards apart as far as one could see. Some of the heaviest fish I have ever killed in Hampshire have been taken with this fly, and yet I have never been satisfied with any of the imitations I have yet devised. The body is of delicate greenish olive, legs a pale watery olive, and the wings distinctly blue, like those of the Indian yellow. I have made the body of silk, wool, dyed fur, ribbed with gold, and with quill of different sorts. I hope some day to hit off the right shade in dyeing fibres of the condor's wing feather, and also to discover what will make the best wing. Possibly the blue feather from a merlin hawk's wing might do, or perhaps the coot's wing might solve the mystery. It must not be a soft feather which sucks up water and gets sodden directly, for the natural fly sits up and rides cockily on the water, and no half-drowned imitation can ever do much execution. I am convinced we have not got the right pattern yet. It should be tied on a No. o.

XVI.—THE LITTLE SKY BLUE.

Either this is the same as Mr. Aldam's Eden fly, or it is a very near relation. It is a splendid grayling fly in August and September; in fact, all free-rising fish take it well in the warm autumn mornings from ten to mid-day.

Body: pale straw colour, of silk, quill, or fur. I have killed well with all three, but silk I like least, as it changes colour after it is wet much more than other materials.

Legs and whisks: light honey dun.

Wings: a pale delicate blue, best imitated with a jay's wing feather.

Hook, oo or ooo.

XVII.—THE RED TAG.

A fancy fly, more for grayling than for trout, and useful in late autumn and winter. But occasionally it attracts trout quite unexpectedly when it is being used for grayling in September. I got some capital trout with it at the close of last season.

Body: peacock herl, short and fat, with a tiny tag of red wool at the tail. At the shoulder a few turns of a dark, rich, red hackle.

Hook, oo.

XVIII.—THE INTERMEDIATE.

I use this name to denote a class of delicate flies which I use with considerable success in summer fishing. Everyone must have noticed how the different duns seem to run by different gradations from one kind into another, so that sometimes a fly picked off the water cannot definitely be named according to any of the standards of classification, and yet it bears a considerable resemblance to several flies we are accustomed to call by name. I have found it very useful to tie various horsehair detached bodies of pale and delicate tints, and then match these with wings and hackle; choosing different shades of honey dun, light buff, or olive for legs, and varying the colour of the wings so as to suit the rest of the fly. I take immense pains over these patterns, and by

constantly studying the changes in the natural insects I am enabled to produce delicate and life-like artificials which frequently bring a good fish to my basket after he has steadily refused to be tempted by other flies.

This list is, I think, comprehensive enough. Some will think it needlessly long, and others will miss some favourite pattern of their own special fancy. But, in giving my opinion on the subject of flies, I have described those which my own book contains, and a supply of which I always like to keep up to working order. If they are dressed of suitable size, and are used with fine gut, they will suffice to give sport if sport is to be had; and anyone who fails with such a list as this will, I am convinced, find fly fishing generally an unprofitable pursuit.

H. S. HALL.

INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES EXHIBITION.

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT THE FINAL MEETING OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE, HELD MARCH 22, 1884.

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, K.G., in the chair.

Present—The Earl of Ducie, Lord Abinger, C.B., Sir A. Blyth K.C.M.G., Sir P. Cunliffe Owen, K.C.M.G., C.B., C.I.E., E. Birkbeck, Esq., M.P., R. K. Causton, Esq., M.P., R. W. Duff, Esq., M.P., E. Lonsdale Beckwith, Esq., T. Crumplin, Esq., E. Edwards, Esq., H. Ffennell, Esq., Professor H. W. Flower, F.R.S., E. W. H. Holdsworth, Esq., A. Jardine, Esq., H. Lee, Esq., F.L.S., Captain St. Vincent Nepean, R.N., Major Flodd Page, Commander J. F. Prowse, R.N., T. R. Sachs, Esq., Lieut.-Colonel Stuart Wortley, J. Last Sayer, Esq., A. L. Rollitt, Esq., LL.D., F.L.S., H. Toozes, Esq., J. Tremaine, Esq., C. Cecil Trevor, C.B., F. Wiseman, Esq., W. Fell Woods, Esq.

The Secretary read the minutes of the last meeting of the General Committee of 8th of August, 1883, which were confirmed.

Mr. Edward Birkbeck, M.P., next read the report of the Executive Committee. He then said: Your Royal Highness and gentlemen, I must apologise for the length of the report just read, but the Executive Committee were particularly anxious to give as much information as possible respecting their proceedings since the last meeting of the General Committee, and it is only the prelude to the exhaustive and interesting official report written by Mr. Spencer Walpole, which will be issued in due course, together with the audited accounts and various statistics of general interest usually presented in connection with International Exhibitions. I wish to point out that our policy has been a most liberal one, and we have endeavoured to make the Exhibition not only a financial success, but also a lasting benefit to those who are specially interested and engaged in the fishing industries of this country. It has undoubtedly been of great importance, and given a direct encouragement to the fishing interest, and has brought the fishery questions of the world before the public in a manner never before contemplated. We have done our best to place before and make known to fishermen, smack owners, and others engaged in the fisheries, all the best modes of fishing carried on in the world, and we have given them every means of acquiring as much knowledge on these subjects as possible, and it only rests now for them to utilise the knowledge they have acquired for their own benefit, and also for the community at large, by increasing the supply of fish. The Legislature must now follow up these results by taking the necessary steps to obtain a reduction in the prohibitive railway rates, and enable both catcher and consumer to receive the benefits to which they are entitled. I trust I may be allowed in conclusion to take this opportunity of referring to an international matter that I have personally taken an active interest in for several years, and which has come to a happy conclusion this week, viz., that the International Convention relative to the North Sea fisheries has been duly ratified at Brussels, and comes into force on the 15th of May and I trust it will have the effect of putting an end to the depredations that have unhappily taken place from time to time. The warmest thanks of all who are engaged in the North Sea fisheries are due to a member of the General Committee (Mr. Cecil Trevor, of the Board of Trade), for the able and admirable manner in which he represented our interests on behalf of Her Majesty's Government. I shall be only too glad to give any further information that may be desired. (Applause.)

Lord Abinger: With His Royal Highness's permission I rise to move that the report be received and confirmed. It is so satisfactory in its nature that it is not at all necessary for me to enlarge upon it, and I am now satisfied that both the public, and the Committee, and your Royal Highness must be perfectly satisfied with the conduct and results of this Exhibition.

Sir Arthur Blyth: I have great pleasure in seconding the motion that the report just read be adopted and confirmed.

The resolution was put and carried unanimously.

His Royal Highness: You have all listened, I am sure, with great interest to the report that has been read to you by the chairman of the Executive Committee. From what we have heard, I think it is patent to all that the late Fisheries Exhibition has in every point of view been a success. It has been a financial success, and it has been also a success as regards the enormous quantity of people who have visited it—not only our own countrymen and those from our colonies, but from every part of the globe. It is unnecessary for me on an occasion of this kind to enumerate the objects of this Exhibition, but I maintain that its two salient objects, namely, the scientific and practical ones, have fully justified its existence—its scientific object by exhibits being shown of every possible kind of modern appliance that could be invented, thus showing the great improvements that have been made in the fishing industry of the world; the practical, because it not only shows to our own countrymen, but to those of all the world, what a valuable means of subsistence fish is, many of whom, I believe, had no idea how valuable it was, whilst the existence of a variety of fish was made known which had not even been heard of by the great majority. Well, gentlemen, you have all heard that there is a surplus amounting to £15,243, and the question naturally is how to employ that sum. In the address that I read to you at the closing of the Exhibition I held out some hope that this might be applied in a useful and practical manner, and I would, therefore, now suggest to the General Committee that one of the best objects to perpetuate this successful Exhibition would be to appropriate, say, about £10,000, to alleviate

the distress of widows and orphans of sea fishermen. I use the words "alleviate the distress" because I do not wish to bind any of you to our erecting an orphanage. That would cost a great deal of money, and I think would possibly be a mistake. If we were to embark in any great building enterprise of that kind, and in future find ourselves in debt, we might find we have frustrated the very objects we have in view—namely, supporting the widows and orphans of those brave fishermen who peril their lives at sea. I would also suggest that £3,000 should be given as an endowment to a society which might be called "The Royal Fisheries Society." What shape that might take will be for future consideration; but possibly some society might be founded under such a name of a similar character to the Royal Agricultural Society. We shall then have a surplus of about £2,000 left, which I think you will all agree will be a good thing to keep in reserve. It would be for the general public in future, I hope, to show their interest in this scheme by supporting it to the best of their ability. I beg, therefore, to move the following resolution:—"That a sum of £10,000 be invested with a view to applying the proceeds to the assistance of families who have suffered the loss of a father or husband in the prosecution of his calling as a sea fisherman. And that a further sum of £3,000 be applied to the formation of a Fisheries Society, such as suggested by His Royal Highness, the President, in his reply to the report of the Executive Committee on the 31st October, 1883." (Loud cheers.)

The Earl of Ducie: I have the honour of rising to second the Resolution moved by His Royal Highness. I assure you that I feel no less strongly than His Royal Highness does the propriety of applying the surplus fund for the alleviation of the distress amongst the wives and families of fishermen who lose their lives at sea, and in such a way that the very utmost benefit to them should be derived from it. The proceeds of such a sum as £10,000 would enable us, as soon as we receive proper authority, and can get machinery to work, at once to apply the proceeds to the alleviation of the distress of certain families; whereas, if we apply ourselves to the erection of an Orphanage, we should have to go about the country to collect subscriptions; we should have to spend an enormous sum in bricks and mortar, and should weight ourselves for ever with the costs of an expensive institution. By applying the proceeds directly to these purposes not a single farthing would be wasted or remain idle. With regard to the second part of the proposition that a society should be formed, I feel sure that a society for treating the questions connected with fisheries as the Royal Society of Agriculture does subjects connected with agriculture would be an institution of the greatest possible use to this country, and I therefore have much pleasure in seconding the proposition.

The resolution was put and carried unanimously.

Mr. E. Lonsdale Beckwith: Your Royal Highness and gentlemen, I came here quite unprepared to say anything on the present occasion. I came with some of my brother fishmongers, to pay our respects to your Royal Highness, and to express our gratitude for the great interest you have taken in this Exhibition, more especially as connected with our Company. But at the same time, after what your Royal Highness has indicated of the manner in which the surplus funds shall be disposed of, I am quite sure that the resolution intrusted to me will not require an advocacy on my part to make it acceptable to the General Committee. It is to the following effect:—"That full power is hereby given to the Executive Committee to carry on the work of the final winding up of the Fisheries Exhibition, and the General Committee do hereby dissolve themselves." After the excellent manner in which the Executive Committee have raised these funds, I think the least we can do is to leave it in their hands to distribute them, and I am quite sure they will be distributed to the very best advantage.

Mr. John Tremayne: I have very great pleasure in seconding that extremely necessary resolution.

The Mayor of Hull (Dr. Rolli): Will your Highness permit me to make a suggestion, as representing one of the outports, with respect to that surplus of £2,000? It is that the handbooks, which have been very high and properly spoken of as being calculated to give information to fishermen, should be distributed to the chief libraries in the kingdom, and also to fishermen's institutes, where they would be accessible. That would be very acceptable to Hull, and it would not involve a large outlay. I therefore venture to make that recommendation to the Committee.

Mr. E. Birkbeck: In answer to the suggestion just made, I would point out that this would be a very expensive procedure. The complete works, I think I am right in saying, would be no less than seven guineas. Of course the public would be able to buy any one portion of it, whether connected with the sea fisheries, the inland fisheries, the essays, or the conference papers. However, the Executive will take note of the suggestion which has been made. We have now completed the agenda paper, and there is only one other matter to put before the meeting, and it is the vote of thanks which I am sure every one here present will join most heartily in supporting. His Royal Highness from the commencement of the Fisheries Exhibition has given an enormous amount of time to it, and it is to him and him alone that the success of the Exhibition is due. I have said so before, and I shall always continue to say so, that had it not been for his Royal Highness's help, for his advice and exertions on all occasions, the Exhibition would not have resulted in the success that it has done, and I am so exceedingly glad that his Royal Highness has carried out what he originally stated at the public meeting at Norwich, at the Fisheries Exhibition that was held there, that it was his wish that that Exhibition and any others which followed should be really for the benefit of the fishing interest, and the entire credit of what has been passed here to-day is due to his Royal Highness and to nobody else. I have great pleasure in moving a vote of thanks to his Royal Highness for presiding here to-day.

Mr. C. Cecil Trevor: I have great pleasure in seconding the resolution.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

His Royal Highness: I am much indebted to you for having so kindly received this vote of thanks, proposed by Mr. Birkbeck. Mr. Birkbeck is one of those excellent gentlemen who are very modest. He is kind enough to say that the success of the Exhibition is owing to me. I am sorry to say I must lay that entirely on his own shoulders; they are very broad ones, and he has carried the Exhibition on them. It is owing to him and to the admirable manner in which the Executive Committee have carried out their most arduous duties, that the Fisheries Exhibition has been the great success it has been.

GEORGE JAMES EATON, of Starkholmes, Matlock-Bath, Derbyshire, respectfully invites Noblemen and Gentlemen to try his standard FLIES for the present season. No flies sent or made up but what he himself has proved sure killers. A trial is all that is required, from gentlemen who can fish, to prove whether they may be genuine or not. Patronised by some of the best fishermen of the day. All flies dressed on the best Kendal hooks. Prices: Point Flies, 2s. 6d. per Dozen; Dropper Flies, 2s. per Dozen. Orders punctually attended to.—(ADVT.)

CLUB REPORTS.

BOSTONIAN ANGLING SOCIETY.

The above club-house having changed hands, we purpose to give our new landlord a complimentary visit on Thursday, April 3rd, when we hope to see as many anglers and friends as can make it convenient to attend.—H. R. BASTAIN, hon. sec.

CAVENDISH ANGLING SOCIETY.

Thursday, April 3rd, smoking concert, and every alternate Thursday. April 10th, special general meeting, when all members are requested to attend.—E.C.

GRESHAM ANGLING SOCIETY.

Business gave way to pleasure on Tuesday evening last, when a number of the members and friends assembled for the purpose of spending a musical evening. The supper which preceded it was admirably served by the host, Mr. Wood, whose catering left nothing to be desired. The chair was very ably taken by Mr. Godwin (hon. solicitor), supported by Mr. Crumplen and Dr. Brunton in the vice-chairs. After the cloth had been cleared, the chairman proposed the toast of the "Queen and Royal Family," which was followed by the National Anthem; he also proposed the "Visitors" (responded to by Messrs. Crowther, Horace Wood, and others), the "Gresham" (for which Mr. Crumplen suitably replied), and the "Secretary." Dr. Brunton gave "Kindred Societies," for which Mr. Bates and Captain Alfred returned thanks. The concluding toast (that of the "Chairman"), drunk with musical honours, was most ably proposed by Mr. Chambers. During the evening a large and varied selection of music was very well gone through, and the recitations of Mr. Harding were also a most welcome addition. In response to the chairman's invitation, several members announced their intention of presenting prizes for competition during the coming season. Particulars of these offers were noted by the secretary, and will shortly be exhibited in the society's room.—H.

LIVERPOOL ANGLING ASSOCIATION.

I am sorry to find that Mr. H. Oliver thinks he has cause of complaint against me, but I cannot see any just cause for it—at least, no offence was meant. I had seen the paragraph in the *Liverpool Weekly Post*, of March 1st, and must pointedly ask Mr. Oliver if he considers that portion of it where it may be said directly to apply to the Liverpool Angling Association "true"? The whole paragraph, however, as well as a second one, which appeared on the 15th inst., is written and conceived in such grossly bad taste for a public writer, that it is not worth consideration. As regards the Liverpool Angling Association, Mr. Oliver can, any Thursday evening, meet ten to twenty of its members at the Strawberry Hotel, West Derby Road, when he will quickly discover that the great majority of them are gentlemen well able to hold their own either with the salmon, trout, or spinning rod, and of good social status, quite equal to H. C.'s, I daresay. As to Stanley Park Lake, the Parks and Gardens Committee refused permission to fish on it, as not suitable; but I should think, if the anglers in that neighbourhood would approach the committee on the subject, they would very likely be successful. As I should not like to ask you, Mr. Editor, for more space for such purely local subjects, I hope Mr. Oliver will favour me with his address—that is, if he wishes to carry the matters further.—RD. WOOLFALL, hon. sec.

NORTH-WESTERN ANGLING SOCIETY.

The members of this society were out in strong force on the 16th and 23rd, and the result proved some of the best takes during this half year. Messrs W. and L. Roxbus, J. H. Stead, and H. Underwood, roach, dace, and chub; R. Marshall, chub; C. Bilings got amongst the dace; J. Holmes, roach; J. Harris, roach; H. Underwood a nice lot of dace from Teddington.—W. HILLIER, sec.

NORTHUMBERLAND ANGLING CLUB, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

The annual meeting of this club was held in the County Hotel, on Wednesday evening, 19th inst. The secretary and treasurer's report showed the club to be in a highly flourishing condition. After transacting ordinary business a "social" was held, twenty-one gentlemen being present. The president of the club, W. S. Vaughan, Esq., occupied the chair, the vice-chair being filled by the vice-president, Wm. Menzies, Esq. Mr. Vaughan's opening speech was, like himself, characteristic in genial good humour. The remainder of the evening was enlivened with musical and other social talent, so strong in most anglers. An original and humorous song, composed for the occasion by one of the members, entitled, "The Fishin' Klub," sang by Mr. Alfred Bell, was received with great applause. An interesting paper on angling was also read by the secretary, and heartily received. Mr. J. S. Rea gave the usual toast, "The Queen." Messrs. J. A. Stephenson and Duncan were capital in stories and recitations. Messrs. Wraith, F. Ridley, Bell, and several guests maintained the harmony of the evening with some capital songs. The health of Mr. Bell, the winner of the President's Challenge Cup for 1883, was drunk with all honours. Mr. Menzies gave the toasts of "Similar Institutions" and "Our Guests," responded to in a capital speech from Mr. Dendy, President of the Newcastle Angling Club. "Auld Lang Syne" closed one of the most enjoyable evenings ever held by the club. The parting feeling was that there is no company so genial as that of "our brethren," and "no sport like that we court by the gentle riverside."—J. H., hon. sec.

PECKHAM BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

The members of this flourishing club held their annual dinner on the 25th, when between forty and fifty members and friends sat down to a repast, in which the hostess, Mrs. Reid, fairly surpassed all her previous successes. The chair was taken by the president, A. Brodie, Esq., while Mr. George Durant occupied the vice-chair. After the toast of "The Queen," Mr. Brodie sang "A Warrior Bold"; Mr. Sam Hancock, "Timothy Black." Then came the toast of the evening, "Success to the Peckham Brothers." This, it is needless to say, was received with a ringing cheer, and the hon. sec., who responded, gave a very good account of the status of the club, which now numbers thirty-four fishing members. Another song, "Never Again, Love," from Mr. Clarke, and "Ehren on the Rhine," by Mr. Turner; then the "Prize Donors," replied to by Mr. Tom Hancock; Mr. Stidolph sang "I Don't Know Where to Find One," Mr. Bignall, "Far Away." The toast of the "Prize Winners," responded to in a very neat speech by Mr. Stidolph; a banjo duet by two friends, whose names I did not hear. Mr. George Durant proposed the "Health of the

President," which was drunk with musical honours. Mr. Brodie, in his response, spoke of the pleasure it gave him to be amongst the members, and hoped they would not neglect to ask him for his assistance in any matter connected with the club. A song from Mr. G. Odell, "It Does Not Belong to Me," and another from Mr. Gardham; then the toast of "The Visitors," to which Mr. Clarke replied; Mr. White sang "The Cork Leg," another visitor recited "The Midnight Charge," Mr. Page sang "Sailing," and several other members and friends kept the ball merrily rolling until 2 a.m., when we all took our departure, declaring that the Peckham Brothers are the jolliest set out. Among the visitors we noticed Messrs. Frank Grigg, Peters, Gray, Pyle, Clarke, Morton and Best. Mr. Mellor sat at the piano, while Mr. Durant lent great assistance to the various singers by his playing the violin.—GADFLY.

PHENIX ANGLING SOCIETY.

A special quarterly meeting will be held at the above society, on Tuesday, April 1st. All members are requested to attend.—J. GRIST.

SOUTH-EASTERN ANGLING SOCIETY.

An excellent meeting on this occasion, some good business ventilated. An invite from the Rodney Piscatorial received for Wednesday next to their smoking concert. One new proposition, several others promised. The prizes of March 2nd were then distributed:—Mr. J. Smith, jun., £1 5s. and 1 lb. tobacco, first prize; second prize, Mr. Ewens, 10s; third prize, Mr. Gold, 7s. 6d.; fourth prize, Mr. Fryer, 5s., and a pair of fretwork brackets, by Mr. Smith, 15, York Street, London Road. I should state that first prize was increased by 10s., given by our worthy host to the winner. After which important business was brought on and settled; then the supper was discussed, of which more will be heard. Lastly, the J. G. Sames Testimonial Fund was brought on—the amount of 16s. 6d. subscribed thereto.—T. H. H. WESTON, sec.

THE PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

On Monday evening last, at Ashley's Hotel, Covent Garden, this society, as previously announced, gave another of their smoking concerts. On the present occasion Mr. M. H. Blamey and the hon. sec. were the organisers, and the concert proved to be one of the most successful ever remembered. The company assembled at 8 o'clock, and the proceedings, under the direction of Mr. Blamey, commenced at 8.30 precisely. Mr. Norman F. Harrison occupied the vice-chair. The programme had been specially designed for this concert, and was both cleverly drawn and amusing. In the foreground there was a river or lake, with water-lilies, reeds, and bulrushes, with numerous attendant sprites angling from the leaves of same; one in particular, sitting on the top-most leaf of the bulrush, had artfully, with rod and line, angled for and hooked a compatriot by his nether garments (on the opposite side of the programme), a delicate attention which had made his hair stand on end. There is another one near, ready to bring him to bank with a landing net. Other sprites are musical, sitting at different points of vantage, and playing their instruments; and amongst the water-lily leaves are froggies who smoke and drink champagne. The concert was opened with a piano solo—"Hussarenritt" (Spindler)—well played by Mr. Kift. Then a glee, "Crabbed Age and Youth" (Messrs. Ash-on, Moore, Thomas, and Kift), beautifully rendered and much applauded. Mr. Alfred Moore followed with a song, "The Brave Light" (Roedel), and narrowly escaped an encore. Mr. W. C. Day now gave one of his beautiful recitations, "The Lifeboat." Many present had heard this recited by professional men, but never with greater effect, or with more pathos than by our kind friend. Loud and long-sustained applause followed. Mr. A. Carter played a clarinet solo, "Mary of Argyle," with variations; and Mr. R. Fennings, a violin solo, "Le Pirate" (Singelee). These were exceedingly well played and applauded. It has been found that instrumental music, interspersed with the vocal, gives a nice change, and adds very much to the pleasure of the concert. Mr. Arthur Thomas, who sang next, gave a love song from the opera of "Rip Van Winkle." This, perhaps, was the gem of the evening, and was so successful that the audience insisted on an encore. He repeated the song, and on the second occasion even excelled the first. We hope he will favour us again on a future occasion. Mr. Kift sang a humorous song, "The Parents," and gave the greatest satisfaction. Miss R. Fennings, W. Fennings, and J. Kift next gave an instrumental trio, "Andante and Rondo" (Haydn), neatly and well executed. Next followed a ballad, "Down by the Brookside" (Fase), sung with charming effect by Mr. H. Ashton. A recitation, "The Dream of Eugene Aram," was then given by Mr. Day, in a most realistic manner. The vice-chairman, Mr. N. F. Harrison, in a few well-chosen and hearty words, proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Blamey. This was seconded by Mr. Crumplen and carried amidst loud cheers, and Mr. Blamey duly responded. Another song was then sang by Mr. Moore, "The Roll of the Drum," and resulted in an encore, which that gentleman kindly responded to. A small space in the centre of the room was cleared as much as it could be to give room for an exhibition of Legerdemain and slight-of-hand by Mons. Bertram. To say that this gentleman worked seeming impossibilities is totally insufficient. There he stood with his audience closely packed all round him, yet with most consummate skill he made cards fly from his hands to his pockets absolutely unperceived, and he also appeared able, by the aid of second sight (as he termed it), to tell you by looking in the eyes any card you took promiscuously from the pack. He gave every facility for persons to watch him, but in no case could his sleight-of-hand be detected. The company gave Mons. Bertram the highest praise. A charming part song followed, "Thuringen Volkslied," by Messrs. Ashton, Moore, Thomas, and Kift, and then Mr. Thomas gave "La Danza" (Rossini), which he rendered admirably, playing the castanets in the refrain. Another humorous song by Mr. Kift, and the National Anthem, in which all joined, brought the concert to a close. During the evening the capacity of the well-known room of this society was tried to the utmost. Thorough cordiality, however, prevailed, and the evening passed in the most satisfactory manner. Ten new members have been elected since the annual dinner, and in all respects the society is in a most flourishing condition.—T. H.

WAVENEY ANGLING CLUB.

At a meeting in the Council chamber on Monday week, an angling club was formed for Beccles and the surrounding district, with the hope that it would be the means of creating an interest in angling, and of bringing funds to the Waveney and Oulton Fisheries Protection Society, which is in great need of assistance to carry out the work of preservation. Amongst those present were the Mayor, Dr. Metcalfe, Messrs. O. J. Pickthall, T. C. Whiting, L. Johnson, W. M. Crowfoot, W. Balls, Captain James. Rev. Borrow, &c. Apologies

were read from Colonel Barne, M.P., and Mr. J. E. Crisp, who regretted to be unable to be present. The Mayor was requested to take the chair, and expressed the opinion that it was a very desirable thing to form an angling association in Beccles, as not only would it be a means of drawing a good many persons to the town, who would of course spend money and in that way add to the prosperity of the place, but indirectly it would be likely to benefit the Protection Society, and improve the sport in the river Waveney. Mr. John Hooker explained that at a meeting of the joint committees of the Oulton and Waveney Protection Society, it was suggested that an endeavour should be made to start an angling club for the town and district, and a sub-committee was appointed with that object. They had held four or five meetings, and their first idea was that the Caxton Angling Club should form the nucleus of a club for the town, and he was asked to bring the matter before the notice of the Caxton Club. He did so, and it was fully considered, the conclusion arrived at being that it would be better that the Caxton Club should remain as it was, and that a new club should be formed in the town, which, it was thought, would tend to create a healthy stimulus and rivalry, and be better for both clubs. After some consideration, it was decided to convene a meeting with the hope of forming a strong club for Beccles and district. With regard to the desirability of forming this club, Beccles was no doubt a quiet little town, and its river and the facilities afforded by its railway junction should be able to attract persons in search of rest and quiet enjoyment which angling was so well calculated to provide. There could be no doubt that these people coming into the town would be a great advantage to the tradespeople, who would be serving their own interests as well as the Protection Society, if they would come forward and support the effort now being made. He was happy to say he had already received many promises of support, and he trusted that the movement would be taken up by the town so that the club could give proper support to the Protection Society, and the river be more fully preserved than was possible with the present limited funds. On the motion of Mr. Pickthall a committee was appointed to make rules and carry out the work of the society, to consist of the following:—Dr. Metcalfe, Messrs. J. P. Walton, C. J. Pickthall, A. W. M. Bussall, W. Balls, C. Bumstead, and W. H. Wright. Dr. Metcalfe thought there could be no doubt about the desirability of forming this society. They had as good and valuable a river as anywhere in the whole kingdom, or rather it might be one with a little care and preservation, more especially if they were able to introduce into the river a few other kinds of fish; and he thought it should be understood that it was not with the idea of simply affording sport and amusement to visitors and gentlemen that they wanted the river preserved. He believed himself that if properly preserved it might be made a source of valuable food supply for the district, and that many of the people of the town might go out with rod and line and get a good meal for their families. The food supply of the people was a question now being taken up, and the economy of fish as food had engaged attention, and its value was being recognised. One of the objects in starting this club was to aid and assist the society in preserving the river. They wanted to increase their funds so as to be able to employ more bailiffs, and thus prevent two or three who had been in the habit of sweeping the river of fish from carrying on this practice for their own sole aggrandisement. It was necessary to appoint a president of the club, and he had great pleasure in proposing Mr. Edwin Crisp for the post. He had been most active and zealous in his efforts to preserve the river. His heart was thoroughly in the work, and he had gone on with it in spite of discouragement, and was most anxious for the success of the club. Mr. Pickthall seconded the proposition, remarking that they were fortunate in getting such a man to take the office. Mr. W. P. Garrod was elected vice-president, and Mr. John Hooker secretary, Dr. Metcalfe remarking that the latter was heart and soul a fisherman, and had given up his valuable time to do what he could for them. It was next decided that the subscription should be not less than 5s., 2s. 6d. to be returned for club purposes and the remainder handed over to the Preservation Society. Captain James expressed the hope that the landlords and occupiers of land adjoining the river would not only subscribe to the club, but adopt measures to prevent the poaching which went on in the dykes, which were really the breeding places for the pike and other fish. If they could not take active steps themselves, they might at least empower the society to take the necessary steps to protect the dykes. The new club was mentioned as a place especially needing to be looked after, and the Mayor promised to bring it before the notice of the Corporation. Between thirty and forty gentlemen have given in their names as members of the club. It was decided to hold a general meeting of members at the Council-chamber, on Tuesday evening, the 18th inst., at eight p.m., when there was again a good muster of members, J. E. Crisp, Esq., occupying the chair. The rules which had been prepared by the committee were read and passed. It was unanimously resolved that the Caxton Arms should be the recognised club room, and that meetings be held on the second Thursday in each month. It is very gratifying to the promoters to find so many coming forward as members. The list already numbers fifty. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, the 10th April.—A WAVE-NEY ANGLER.

WELLINGTON ANGLING SOCIETY.

At the meeting of this society held on Wednesday evening, the gross weight prizes for last season were distributed by the chairman (Mr. Hills). First prize, a silver albert, Mr. White; second prize, a pair of easy chairs; third prize, silver gravy spoon, Mr. White; fourth prize, pair of vases, Mr. Palmer; and fifth prize, a sardine dish, Mr. Wright. The loving cup having passed round, the following gentlemen offered prizes for the ensuing season, in addition to the long list already offered:—Mr. Parsons a hands me pin-cushion; Mr. Crocker, meerschaum pipe, value 10s. 6d.; and Mr. Hopkins (Excelsior) a silk line. Mr. William Tiley was elected a member, and after several subscriptions for the Sames Testimonial had been acknowledged, the remainder of the evening was devoted to harmony. Messrs. Hills, Perrott, Hopkins, and Wright, particularly distinguishing themselves.—W. W. ALEXANDER, sec.

THIS week's number of the *St. Stephen's Review* will contain a poem entitled "Art and Nature," by Lord Lytton.

ERRATUM.—In letter on "The National Fish Culture Association," (page 143) the word "fly" of salmon should be "fry."

SALMON FISHING IN THE SEVERN.—At Rhuterskin, on three successive days, last week, a very successful capture of remarkably fine salmon was made, the aggregate weight of the fish caught being over 214 lb., and varying in weight from 11 lb. to 21 lb. The fishermen were Messrs. Morgan, Price, and Evans, of Arddleen, Llandrinio.

SALMON & TROUT-FISHING.

CHAS. FARLOW & Co.
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MANUFACTURERS OF FIRST-CLASS RODS AND TACKLE,
SALMON AND TROUT FLIES, SUITABLE FOR
ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD.

Mahseer Tackle in Great Variety.

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Improved Folding Trout Landing Nets.

(Very Light).

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(Can be regulated to any stiffness at will).

Brown's Phantom Minnows.

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PRACTICAL ANGLER, FLY DRESSER, AND MANUFACTURER
OF EVERY DESCRIPTION OF FISHING TACKLE,

James Ogden's Newly-Invented Premier Spinner,

Regd. Nov. 13th, 1883. This Bait is constructed upon an entirely new and
improved principle. Salmon, 6s. 6d.; Trout, 5s.; smaller do, 3s. 6d.
Silver or Gil.

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JAMES OGDEN'S

Multum in Parvo Fly Rods.

PRICE 2 1s.,

The enormous and increasing demand for which is a sufficient guarantee for the high
estimation in which they are held by the leading anglers of the day.

All Standard Flies ordered, or dressed correct to pattern, will be despatched by return of
post.

N.B.—NO CONNECTION WITH ANY OTHER PERSONS ASSUMING THE SAME NAME.

"Art, empire, earth itself, to change are doomed."—THE HERMIT.

EXCHANGE.

Things Wanted—to BUY, to SELL, or to EXCHANGE.

N.B.—We take no responsibility whatever in connection with advertisements inserted
in this or other parts of this paper; but beg our readers to expose any case of im-
position. The prices for inserting advertisements in this "EXCHANGE"
Column are 6d. per line for one, or 4d. per line for more than one insertion.
Address Manager, FISHING GAZETTE, 12 and 13, Fetter Lane, London, and send
stamps with the order, or the advertisement cannot be inserted.

WANTED.—Particulars and prices of Secondhand Books on Angling and Fish Culture.
Must be in good condition—Address Editor, FISHING GAZETTE, 12 and 13, Fetter Lane,
London, E.C.

FOR SALE.—Good fly rod, brass winch, and line for same, 12s. 6d. Tweed mackintosh,
(cost 35s.), 17s. A neat box, fitted cabinet lid, 5s. All as new; owner going abroad.—
W. R. Johnson, 61, Paddington Street, Baker Street, London.

Splendid Trout Flies, 8d. per dozen. Trout Flies to pattern or instruction, 81. per
dozen. See Editor's notice, March 22, 1884.—J. PALMER, Littleworth, Redditch.

STOCKING THE SEVERN WITH TROUT AT SHREWSBURY.

ANGLERS of all grades will be glad to hear that the Severn at Shrewsbury is
receiving a great deal of attention at the hands of the Severn Board of Con-
servators, and the Shrewsbury Severn Angling Society, with a view to improv-
ing the fishing in that part. At present their efforts have been confined to that
portion of the river that runs within the borough, which is something like seven
miles, with thirteen splendid trout and grayling fords. Through the medium
of the angling society, the riparian owners have issued a notice
prohibiting the use of any nets or night lines within the borough,
which instruments have for some years been most illegally and constantly used,
with the usual destructive results. Last year this flourishing society received
from Colonel Masefield, of Ellerton Hall, Newport, the very handsome present
of 7,000 trout fry, which were placed in the river round the town of Shrews-
bury. The fish were cross bred between the common trout and the Lough
Neagh, and are quite a different-looking fish to the Severn trout. One of these
fish was taken by an angler last week while spinning, and it is very gratifying
to know they are now between 3 and 4 ozs. in weight. On Saturday last
the gallant colonel supplemented his present of last year with another
7,000 of the same breed which were placed in the river by Colonel
Masefield's keeper, who accompanied the fish on each occasion, and Mr. F.
H. Morgan, the honorary secretary to the club. Thus in two years something
like 14,000 young fish have been placed in this beautiful stretch of water, than
which it would be difficult to find more suitable for the purpose in the country.
The fish that were turned in last year will spawn in the autumn. Colonel
Masefield has intimated that if protection from nets, &c., is afforded, this will
not be the last of his presents. And it is needless to say that the best thanks,
not only of the Shrewsbury Angling Society, but of all anglers who frequent
this part, will unanimously be accorded to the donor. And we anticipate some
fine sport in a few years.

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RIVER REPORTS.

TIME OF HIGH WATER IN THE THAMES.

To find the time of high water in the Thames at any of the following places,
to the time of high water at London Bridge (given below).

	30 minutes for Chelsea.
40	" Putney.
45	" Hammersmith.
50	" Barnes.
55	" Kew.
75	" Richmond.
80	" Twickenham.
85	" Teddington.

Example:—If it is high water at 2 o'clock at London Bridge, it will be high
water at Teddington about 3.25, or eighty-five minutes later; but it must be
remembered that a strong wind accelerates or retards the tide very much.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.

		Morning.	Afternoon.
For Saturday, March 29	3. 8	3. 29	
Sunday, " 30	3. 48	4. 10	
Monday, " 31	4. 33	4. 54	
Tuesday, April 1	5. 17	5. 40	
Wednesday, " 2	6. 7	6. 33	
Thursday, " 3	7. 3	7. 35	
Friday, " 4	8. 11	8. 53	

NOTE.—Thames Trout Fishing commences April 1. Probable high tides on
March 29, 30, and 31. Good Friday, April 11.

THE LOWER THAMES.

The anglers for trout are busily preparing for Tuesday next, the opening day
of the season, and Kingston Reach is, from the events of last year, likely to be
largely patronised. The reports from all parts of the river are highly favour-
able as to the existence of large quantities of good trout; but the cold winds
of the last few days having kept them from coming to the surface of the water,
they have got their food much lower down. The conservators, who are not
unwilling to give permission to anglers fishing from the weirs, have added a
clause to the effect that anglers go on at their own risk, thereby removing all
liability from the Board in the event of any accident. It is to be hoped the
professional fishermen will avoid the practice of angling for trout by themselves.
It is not done so much now as it used to be. It is a short-sighted act, and
only keeps anglers away. One thing is certain: all true anglers will set their
face against it. A large pike of 15 lb. has been picked up dead in the back-
water running past Weybridge Oil Mills: it was full of spawn. The dace are
now dropping down again in the tidal waters, having satisfactorily finished their
spawning operations above. The water is in good condition, and, in the
opinion of some of the trout anglers, the fish will feed even when the tempera-
ture of the water is very cold.

UPPER THAMES.

The cold wind from the E. will, I fear, considerably interfere with the
chances of sport amid the fresh-water spot ted leopards, on Tuesday next, the
opening day for trout on the Thames. During my late prophetic observations
of the river I have absolutely not seen a palpable trout on the feed; but from
personal knowledge I am fully aware that no pains or expense, commensurate
with ability or funds, has been spared to stock the river in all likely places, by
the various associations, with trout of size to hold their own against the
depredations of jack and such like beasts of prey. The putting in the Thames
of very small trout for stocking purposes is, I hope, an exploded matter—in fact
it is like putting a nice lot of minnows in a punt-well for future use, and forget-
ting the little perch also therein. In a few days the minnows are considerably
minimised, if not non est altogether, and Mr. Perch is still there, looking fat
and well, and perfectly unconscious of having misbehaved, either to himself,
the succulent morsels, or the owner of the punt. Many a time and oft have I
been treated in this nonchalant way,—and that perch has gone over to the
majority with a blessing. For sport on Tuesday, if the weather is warmer than
now, I would advise a visit to March Pool, Henley, Hambledon Weir, Holey
Weir, Temple and Marlow ditto, or to Odney, Boulton, and Boveney locks.
The Maidenhead Bailiffs (Angling Association) have lately been doing good
service by netting the surrounding ditches in communication with the Thames,
and returning the capture therein; the latest haul consisting of 507 fish, made
up as follows:—353 perch, 126 roach, 17 jack, 14 chub, and 1 tench. Several
of the chub were estimated by H. Wilder, "The King Fisher," to go over 4 lb.
—MARLOW BUZZ.

Eynsham.

I found I was too late for post last Thursday, so now send you result of last
day's angling, viz, Friday, 14th. Mr. Geen and self went to the Evenlode,
he with pith and brains for chub, I was for roach with lobworms. We had a
splendid day, the weather being delightful, and sport as good as one could
wish. Mr. Geen landed eleven chub weighing 27 lb. I had 5 roach weighing
exactly 5 lb., and 2 chub 3½ lb. Several of our local anglers had fair takes of
jack; and, taking the winter season altogether, we must be very gratified at
the many nice days we have had, and the general condition of our local streams
being so good for angling, especially as the last few winters we have had floods,
rendering angling impossible.—W. B. HOWE.

Ancholme District.

Owing to the change in the weather and the prevailing easterly winds, nothing has been done in the angling line during the past week, but further batches of trout fry have gone into local waters. In reply to Mr. Corry's note of last week, I may say that I did not see "Silver Grey's" remarks, and have sent my paper containing them away. I cannot, therefore, make any comments thereon; but I may state that I answered his last letter at considerable length nearly a month ago, and to my own mind satisfactorily solved the riddle he so sagely propounded. I trust the Editor may find room for it shortly, as it will, I think, be my last on the subject. Apart from any remarks of mine, I think Mr. Corry came off second best a long time ago. I am well content with the company which endorses my view, as they have all the courage to append their names, whilst Mr. Corry's friends, to a man, I think, are anonymous ones.—THOMAS FORD.

Ballynahinch.

Since my last report sport has been very indifferent. Continual east and south-east winds. The takes were as follows: On the 19th, Mr. Dudgeon, one salmon, 12 lb.; same date, Mr. Hume, one, 11½ lb.; Mr. Neill, one, 12 lb.; and Middleton, one, 12 lb.; on the 21st, Mr. Neill, one, 12 lb.; on the 24th, Mr. Sutherland, three, two 13½ lb., and one 11 lb.; on the 25th, Mr. Hume, one, 13 lb.; and Mr. Neill, one, 12 lb.—WALTER BLACKADDER.

Coquet (Weldon Bridge).

On the 22nd inst. the wind from the east was unfavourable for the fishermen. Messrs. Elcome, Horsley, and Wilson for the three rods creel three dozen and seven; Mr. R. Barker, three and a-half brace; Mr. Barker, three brace; H. Barker one brace. On the 24th, the Rev. Mr. Oliver creel five pound trout all with fly—the March brown and Greenwell glory. On the 26th, the water very bright and small, the wind from the east very cold, and little sport. Mr. Bambridge seven brace; Mr. Hedley, one and a-half brace.—A. GLASS.

Dee and Don (Aberdeenshire).

Angling was not prosecuted much last week, from the fact, doubtless, that the river was very much out of order. Net fishing was poor in results as a consequence of a rough sea being on. On Wednesday some good shots were got, but earlier in the week and later on nothing to speak of was obtained. A deal of rain up country, and the melting of snow on the hills brought the rivers down in flood from Thursday onward. Sea and river are both settling down now, and good fishing ought by-and-by to be obtained. To-day (Tuesday) the Dee is in beautiful angling order, and the various beats well occupied. The principal favourites in the Banchory District in the way of flies are the "Gordon" and "grey heron," with black barred turkey wings and lightish tips. About Kincardine O'Neil the "Gordon" is doing most execution. On the Aboyne waters the "Glentana," "Ackroyd," and "Gordon" are more than holding their own. "Tricolours" and "Eagles" (Aigles) are all the rage at Ballater. At present every fancy fly except the "Gordon" pales before the strip-winged ures. Strips of eagle feather in place of turkey are now being attached to "Eagle" flies by some of our tackle makers, and the experiment is reported a success. Reports from the Dee to hand. Last week:—Braemar District; Invercauld Arms Hotel Water.—Wednesday, Alexander McGregor, jun., Esq., 2 fish, 7 and 8 lb.; Thursday, 3 fish, 7½, 8, and 10 lb.; Saturday, 2 fish, 7½ and 8 lb. This long and excellent reach is open (free) to visitors staying at the hotel during the month of March. Report of Mr. George Smith, saddler and tackle maker:—Ballater, Balmoral. Her Majesty the Queen's Private Fishery.—Monday, 2 fish, 16 and 20 lb.; Thursday, 3 fish, 8, 9, and 12 lb. Monaltrie Water.—F. Pickop, Esq., Tuesday, 1 fish, 9½ lb.; Wednesday, 2 fish, 7 and 7½ lb.; J. Harper, Tuesday, 1 fish, 9½ lb. Pannanich Water.—Monday, Claud Mackenzie, Esq., 3 fish, 9, 9½, and 11 lb.; Thursday, 1 fish, 10½ lb. Invercauld Arms Water.—J. Muller, Esq., Tuesday, 4 fish, 8, 9, 11, and 11½ lb.; Friday, 2 fish, 9½ and 9½ lb.; Saturday, 1 fish, 11 lb. "Tuesday morning: sport been poor, river flooded for 2 days, settled down now, plenty of fish been seen, good sport expected."—G. S. Kincardine O'Neil District.—Report of Messrs. Wm. Blacklaws and Son, rod and fishing tackle makers, Ballalgie Water.—The Honourable William Arbuthnott, Thursday, 1 fish, 13 lb. Commonly.—G. M. Mackay, Esq., Saturday, 1 fish, 14 lb.; G. Duncan, keeper to Dr. Farquharson, of Finzean, M.P., Tuesday, 1 fish, 9 lb.; Thursday, 1 fish, 14½ lb. Norton House Water.—J. Nicoll, keeper to Wm. Lamond, Esq., Thursday, 2 fish, 6½ and 8½ lb. Borrowstone Water.—John Hooper, Saturday, 1 fish, 9 lb. "River quite out of order all the week." Culter and Park Districts: Park Water.—Major Carnegie, Thursday, 1 fish, 12 lb. Durris.—C. Hayne, Esq., 1 fish. Tilbouries.—Thursday, Sir Maurice D. Gordon, 1 fish, 14 lb.; Captain Sargeant, 1 fish, 12 lb. Huntly Arms Party.—Aboyne Fishings.—Sir Herbert Lewis, Wednesday, 1 fish, 9 lb.; Saturday, 2 fish, 9 and 10 lb.; Mrs. Wormold, Thursday, 1 fish, 8 lb.; Saturday, 1 fish, 10 lb.; J. Wason, Esq., Wednesday, 1 fish, 7 lb.; Colonel Saltmarch, Thursday, 1 fish, 9 lb. Banchory District: Blackhall Upper Water.—Ben Warrick, Esq., London, Wednesday, 1 fish, 8½ lb.; Thursday, 1 fish, 8 lb. Cairnton Cottage Water.—T. Farcey, Esq., Tuesday, 2 fish, 7 and 9 lb.; Wednesday, 5 fish, 7, 8, 10, 11, and 12 lb.; Thursday, 1 fish, 8 lb. Inchmarlo.—Major Gordon, Wednesday, 1 fish, 7 lb. West Durris.—Colonel Hill's, Wednesday, 1 fish, 7 lb.; Tuesday, A. Adam, keeper to R. S. Hills, Esq., the Parsonage, Banchory, 1 fish, 8 lb. Drum.—A. Muirhead Aitken, Esq., Tuesday, 2 fish, 10 and 11 lb. Kineskie.—Wednesday, W. Hoare, Esq., 1 fish, 7 lb. Lower Crathes Water.—Thursday, T. Hoare, Esq., 1 fish, 7 lb. Drum Water.—Thursday, James Brown, Esq., 1 fish, 10 lb. On some of the beats the who'e week through, any attempt at angling would have been perfectly useless. The hopes of a number of gentlemen who had arrived from the south were completely dashed in consequence. Reports for the week:—The Don.—J. Shirrefs Gordon, Esq., of Craig, landed on the Seaton House Water, on Monday, a fine fresh run fish of 14 lb. The Dee.—Aboyne Fishings, Huntly Arms Party.—Sir Edward Lewis, Monday, 2 fish, 11 and 12 lb.; Col. Saltmarch, 1 fish, 12 lb.; J. Wason, Esq., 4 fish, 8, 10, 10, and 12 lb. Durris Home Water.—General McIntyre, 2 fish; C. Hayne, Esq., 1 fish. Invercauld Arms Water, Ballater.—J. Muller, Esq., 2 fish, 6 and 8 lb. Glentana Water.—Wm. Cunliffe Brooks, Esq., M.P., Tuesday, 8 fish, 7 to 18 lb. Durris Home Water.—Dr. Macdonald, 1 fish, 10 lb.; C. Hayne, Esq., 1 fish, 12 lb. Night poaching—netting—is again reported from the Culter district. How long is this to be tolerated? We put the question to the Dee Fishery Board. Wednesday: Sport rather poor to-day. Appearances indicate a change of weather. Frosty nights and bright mornings have been common of late, and few fish running. Up to date the netting results this week have been trifling. On the Don some good baskets of trout are being got. Flies.—March brown, hare lug and partridge ruff. POACHING.—Stricter vigilance seems to be kept on the Don than on the Dee, as of the five cases tried to-day before the Sheriff, four were connected

with the Don and one with the Little Water of Gight, a tributary of the Ythan. Thursday, noon.—A strong southerly breeze blew during the night and for a few hours this morning. The weather is now piercingly cold and squally. About 9 a.m. we had a bird's-eye view of several of the higher hills beyond Banchory, and noticed that several of them were enswathed with the snow cloud. In the absence of frost last night, a good few fish were running. Wind S.S.W.—W.M. [Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

On these rivers the sport has been of a medium kind during the past week. The reports from the Don, though still rather meagre, show an improvement. We have to acknowledge our indebtedness to Mr. Garden, Gunmaker, Union Street, for reports from several of the reaches on both these rivers. The hooks now being used are pretty much the same in size as were used during the earlier parts of the month, when the water was in a corresponding state. There is no appreciable change in the temperature of the water. Much snow still lies at the higher hills, and frosty nights are conspicuous by their frequency. Few fish have been got in the nets, 80 being the most secured at any one station during the past week. The upper reaches of the Dee are affording very good sport, and but for the changeable nature of the weather, grand totals would have reached us from some of the beats up country. Several Banchory and Durris fishers have left for the South till the weather improves. Reports to hand. The Don.—Inverurie Burgh Water (open).—Monday, Mr. W. Ord, 1 fish, 10½ lb.; Tuesday, Mr. J. Nicol, 1 fish, 6 lb. Manor Water.—Henry Gordon, Esq., Wednesday, 1 fish, 8½ lb. Grandholm Water.—Friday, Sir Maurice Duff Gordon, 2 fish, 8 and 15 lb. respectively. Kintore Burgh Water (free).—Thomas Watt, Esq., Tuesday, 1 salmon, 11 lb.; Wednesday, 1 pike, 7 lb., 1 trout, 2 lb. Kintore Lower Water.—Saturday, J. H. Bott, Esq., Corsindae House, 1 fish, 10 lb.; Mr. J. Campbell, keeper, 1 fish, 10 lb. Parkhill and Fintray House Waters.—"A good few salmon got during the week, but the prevailing east winds were decidedly against the sport. Plenty of fish in the water. Trout showing well at the natural fly, and with mild weather good baskets will be got."—H. McD. Mr. McD.'s water is as good as any part of the Don, both for trout and salmon. The Dee.—Kincardine O'Neil District Fisheries.—Report of Messrs. William Blacklaws and Son, rod and fishing tackle makers:—Ballalgie Water.—Tuesday the Hon. William Arbuthnott, 1 fish, 9 lb.; Wednesday, the Hon. David Arbuthnott, 1 fish, 9½ lb. Carlogie Water.—Monday, Mowbray Farquhar, Esq., 1 fish, 10½ lb.; Stewart Farquhar, Esq., 1 fish, 11 lb. Borrowstone Water.—Saturday, Walter D. Leslie, Esq., of Drumrossie, 1 fish, 8½ lb. Norton House Water.—Tuesday, Major Charles Leith Hay, 1 fish, 10½ lb. Community Water.—Tuesday, J. Mortimer, keeper to W. E. Nicol, Esq., of Ballalgie, 1 fish, 9½ lb.; Wednesday, 2 fish, 8 and 9 lb. Desswood Water.—Friday, Major Charles Leith Hay, 1 fish, 10½ lb. and Mr. John Harper, 1 fish. River in beautiful order, but the pools only fairly stocked with fresh-run fish. Banchory District: West Durris and Lower Crathes Waters.—Colonel Hills, Wednesday, 1 fish, 7 lb.; Thursday, 1 fish, 9 lb.; Friday, 1 fish, 8 lb.; R. S. Hills, Esq., The Parsonage, Friday, 1 fish, 9 lb. Inchmarlo.—T. Barbour, Esq., Nottingham, Monday, 1 fish, 7 lb.; Tuesday, 1 fish, 6 lb.; Friday, 1 fish, 10½ lb.; Saturday, 1 fish, 9 lb. Drum.—A. Muirhead Aitken, Esq., London, Tuesday, 1 fish, 9 lb.; Friday, 1 fish, 11 lb. Inver.—Mr. A. Wright, keeper to General Oliphant, R.E., Tuesday, 2 fish, 10 and 13 lb. Banchory Lodge.—Mr. And. Craven, keeper to J. J. Todd, Esq., Saturday, 1 fish, 12 lb.; Monday (this week), 1 fish, 9 lb. Woodend Water.—Major Traherne landed 3 fish, scaling respectively 7, 11, and 12 lbs. Lower Blackhall.—Mr. J. Pirie, for J. T. Hay, Esq., Edinbro', Monday, 1 fish, 9 lb.; Saturday, 1 fish, 7 lb. Upper Blackhall.—B. Warwick, Esq., London, and party Monday 3 fish, 8, 8, and 13 lb.; Tuesday, 2 fish, 8 and 10 lb. Wednesday, 1 fish, 14 lb.; Friday, 2 fish, 7 and 11 lb.; Saturday, 1 fish, 11 lb. Cairnton.—T. Farley, Esq., Monday, 2 fish, 8 and 9 lb.; Tuesday, 1 fish, 8 lb.; Thursday, 1 fish, 10 lb.; Saturday, 4 fish, 8, 9, 11, and 12 lb. Durris and Culter Districts.—A. Irvine Fortescue, Esq., Kingcause, Tuesday, 1 fish, 13 lb.; Saturday, 2 fish, 9 and 12 lb.; Monday (this week), 1 fish, 12 lb. Durris Home Water.—Dr. McDonald, Wednesday, 1 fish, 11 lb.; C. Hayne, Esq., 1 fish, 14 lb. Ballalgie District.—Report of Mr. George Smith, saddler and tackle maker, Monaltrie Water.—T. G. Seymour, Esq., Wednesday, 1 fish, 8 lb.; Thursday, 1 fish, 9 lb.; Friday, 1 fish, 10 lb. Birkhall.—Colonel Edes Monday, 1 fish, 9 lb.; Wednesday, 1 fish, 16 lb.; Thursday, 2 fish, 8 and 10 lb. Invercauld Arms Hotel Water.—J. Muller, Esq., Tuesday, 2 fish, 8 and 9 lb.; Wednesday, 3 fish, 7, 8, and 10 lb.; Saturday, 2 fish, 10 and 10 lb. Charles Muller, Esq., Saturday, 2 fish, 7 and 9 lb. During the week, J. A. Critchley, Esq., enjoyed good sport on the Cambus O'May water. Monday of present week. Monaltrie.—T. G. Seymour, Esq., 1 fish, 7½ lb.; F. Pickop, Esq., 2 fish, 8 and 8½ lb. Invercauld Arms Hotel Water.—J. Muller, Esq., 1 fish, 8½ lb.; Charles Muller, Esq., 1 fish, 8 lb. Mr. Smith reports the pools to be well stocked at present—weather ragglish, water unsettled, flies in irons 2 to 2½ inches in length. Braemar.—Invercauld Arms Water.—A. McGregor, jun., Esq., went out from the Hotel three days last week, for a few hours each day, with the following result: Monday, 3 fish, 6, 9, and 12 lb.; Wednesday, 3 fish, 6½, 10½, and 12 lb.; Thursday, 1 fish, 10½ lb. Aboyne District.—Huntly Arms Party.—Tuesday, Mrs. Wormold, 3 fish, 8, 10 and 16 lb.; Wednesday, 2 fish, 7 and 9 lb. Colonel Saltmarch, Tuesday, 2 fish, 10 and 11 lb.; Sir Herbert Lewis, Tuesday, 1 fish, 8 lb.; Wednesday, 1 fish, 9 lb.; Saturday, 2 fish, 10 and 12 lb.; J. Wason, Esq. Tuesday, 1 fish, 10 lb.; Wednesday, 1 fish, 9 lb.; Saturday, 2 fish, 8 and 10 lb. Aboyne Water.—Colonel Keen, Monday, 1 fish, 12 lb. Glentana Water.—William Cunliffe Brooks, Esq., M.P.'s party, Monday, 9 fish, 7 to 12 lb.; Tuesday, 20 fish, 7 to 21 lb.; Wednesday, 9 fish, 7 to 10 lb.; Thursday, 6 fish, 8 to 12 lb.; Saturday, 1 fish, 10 lb. Durris Home Water.—General Oliphant, Monday, 1 fish, 9 lb.; Tuesday, 1 fish, 8 lb.; Saturday, Colonel McIntyre, 1 fish, 8 lb. To-day (Wednesday) the rivers are low and clear. Dull weather and easterly winds prevail. Angling prospects rather cheerless.—W. M.

Dove.

The weather at the time of writing to-day (Thursday) is extremely dull, and the wind remains in the quarter where it has been all the week—nearly due east. There have not been a great number of rods out, and the fish have been rising the best in the middle of the day, when the sun has tempered the keenness of the atmosphere. The average of baskets has been about four brace per rod—under rather than over. With the weather as at present, the March brown will not be on the water before Easter, when we shall no doubt have a busy time. The Derby trout killer continues the most destructive in the tributary brooks. The Trent Fishery Board have wisely placarded their district with notices offering £10 reward to any one giving evidence leading to the conviction of any person using lime or other unlawful means to poison fresh water fish within the boundaries of their district. This is a course which might have been taken with advantage before.—THE SPLODGER.

Eden (Carlisle).

Since the river has become fairly clear of snow broth, sport has considerably improved as far as salmon fishing is concerned, but trout have taken badly, and will not now take freely till we have another fresh. I have heard of the following spring fish being landed. March 18th, Mr. James Steel, one; 19th, Mr. Hall, two; 20th, Sam Wright, one; Mr. Hall, one; Mr. H. Sawyer, one; 22nd, Mr. Yearney, one, Mr. Slater, one; George Ferguson, one; Colonel Blackett, one; 24th, Mr. H. Hodgson, one; Mr. G. H. Dixon, one; 25th, Sam Wright, one; Mr. Hewitson, two; 26th, G. Leach, one, Mr. Hewitson, one. But the greatest feat performed in this river for years was that of the above Mr. Hall, hailing from Liverpool, who, after fishing all day Saturday without success, killed five spring fish, between 4 and 6 p.m., at Syke Foot, out of the stream with one fly. They weighed 67 lb., and were all good fish. This is not a "barney" story. More than one angler saw the whole of the sport, and one of them, who had a landing net, helped the angler very much by landing them when only half "killed." On Wednesday, the question of allowing the use of the gaff till the end of the rod fishing season, was again brought before the Eden Conservancy Board by Mr. J. B. Slater, and this time with complete success. By nine votes to one, the Board decided to amend the Bye-law, so as to extend the legal use of the gaff till November 15th, instead of November 1st, so that the absurdity of not being able to use the gaff for the last fortnight, when the fish are heavier than at any other time, and all can be legally taken, is put an end to.—SILVER GREY.

Exe (Exeter).

A few salmon have been taken at Salmon Pool and Trews Weir, but nothing calling for special comment. Last few days an easterly wind has been prevailing, to the horror of anglers and the British public here generally. Mr. Dudley caught some nice trout, near Stoke Cannon, early part of the week. Flies, March brown and blue upright, I believe.—J. A. KELLEY.

Exe (Tiverton).

The north-east wind has prevented many anglers from venturing out. The more enthusiastic who have done so have had fair sport, some good fish having been taken with blue upright, iron blue, and Hare's flecks upright.—W. MUDFORD.

Ilfracombe.

Sea fishing.—During the past two weeks the weather has been fine, and some small lots of whiting, pout, codling, &c., have been caught. Prospects are good for line fishing, the pout, codling, and whiting being in fine condition and biting freely. On Monday, the trawling commenced for the season; but boats had indifferent catches, consisting of a few soles, plaice, and thornback. To lovers of hand line fishing, this promises a good season, and our boatmen are busy preparing gear, &c., for the expected arrival of large numbers of the fishing loving public. The weather still continues fine.—E. COMER.

Lakes of Killarney.

The weather is looking better for fishing, and the lakes are getting in good order, and if we don't have any more rain for a few days, we shall have good sport next week. The following are the number of salmon taken since the last report: March 19th, Mr. J. D. Curtaigne, one salmon, on Flesk, 10 lb.; Mr. D. C. Coltsman, part of the Flesk, next day, one 12½ lb.; Robin Robert, 2 salmon, on the lower lake, 22 lb.; Tim McCarthy, one salmon, 15½ lb.; 21st, Mr. John C. Coltsman, one on Flesk, 15 lb.; Michael Kelliher, one, 11 lb.; 22nd, Mr. D. C. Coltsman, jun., two salmon, 13 and 10 lb.; same day, Mr. John C. Coltsman, one, 10 lb.; Mr. J. D. Curtaigne, one each day, 12 and 11 lb.; Tim McCarthy, one, 9 lb.; 23rd, Pat Cronin, one salmon on lower lake, 11 lb.; Pat Robert, on 24th, two salmon, one 12 lb., one 10 lb.; Tim McCarthy, three salmon, 35 lb.; next day, one salmon, 14½ lb.; Pat Robert, 2 salmon, 20 lb.; W. Courneane, 2 salmon, 20 lb.; Captain Hewson, 34 brown trout, all in good condition; Captain Crane, 2 doz.; Captain Proy, 20 trout; Lieutenant Roberts, 18 brown trout; the largest scaled 1½ lb. The taking flies were orange ground, claret, and crowding. James Hayes got a splendid brown trout, of 10 lb., with spoon bait, and in grand condition; Muckross nets, 28 salmon; Glenna, 20 salmon.—TIM MCCARTHY, Fisherman.

Lugg and Arrow.

The waters of this part could not be in better order for fishing than at present; all the streams being clear, and the fish are sporting well at the blue dun, and some good baskets have been taken this week. In the Arrow, on Friday, a splendid lot of trout were taken with the fly, some weighing ¾ to 1 lb. each. Saturday being a fine day, there were several anglers out fly-fishing, and some very good trout were landed. On Monday an old angler visited the Arrow with the live bait for pike fishing, and managed to land four, the largest weighing 4 lb., and the smallest 2 lb. A few very good fish were taken in the Lugg, with the fly, on Monday; and six very nice trout were landed on Tuesday, with the blue dun. Some few fish were taken in the Arrow on the same day. The Pinsley is still in good order, and the fish are biting well at the March brown. A splendid lot of trout were taken with the fly on Monday, and a very nice dish was landed on Tuesday with the fly. We are told that the quantity of pike of this part is now getting scarce, which is shown by the large quantities of small trout with which these streams are well stocked, and that nearly all the water from the railway station down is being strictly preserved against anyone fishing without leave, which deprives most of the working-men of a bit of good fishing, as it has always been a free place for nearly anyone to fish in. There have been several nice lots of fish taken in the Earsland part, and a few have been landed in the Shobden district. Tirington district quiet.—GWYNNE.

Severn (Shrewsbury).

I must ask those readers whom I disappointed last week to deal as leniently as possible with me for my seeming neglect in not sending in my report in time for publication of Saturday, but I can assure them I had not forgotten them, but had gone down the river to see if I had since last year retained any idea of spinning a minnow and hooking and landing a trout. My friend and I commenced fishing at Belvedere Bridge, on which ford I ran a nice fish, that cut my minnow in half but did not touch the hooks. After fishing hard for some time I thought I felt a check, but all was free; the next throw was more successful, and I landed my first trout this year, which weighed about ½ lb. Still standing in the same place, in a few more throws, I ran a perch, who came again the next throw, but did not get off so easily this time, and was fish number two. I went again to the same spot, and saw a fine trout follow my bait two consecutive throws, and the third time he struck at it, and was hooked, but only for a moment, as he fled at it just as I was in the act of taking it from the water. This fish must at the very least have weighed 1½ lb., but darkness

and rain came on before we caught any more fish, my friend not touching one. On Monday, the 16th inst., a man named Bryan, spinning from the wall by the Welsh Bridge, landed a fine trout, weighing 2½ lb.; and, during the week, he caught another, about 2 lb. A friend of mine, while spinning the Welsh Bridge, hooked a grand fish, which several gentlemen who were looking on at the time estimated at 2 lb. After fishing for some time, he managed to get a nice trout of 1½ lb. Some grand takes of salmon were had during the week; in fact, there were more salmon caught in the Severn, between Buington and Shrewsbury, than have on many occasions been landed above Tewksbury Weir during the whole season—not only the greatest number, but also the largest fish, were taken. On Tuesday, Mr. John Convey, of Mardol, received from a fisherman named Wild four of the handsomest fish which have been seen in Shrewsbury for many years. The largest was a picture seldom to be seen: he weighed 34 lb., and was in grand condition, as will be seen from the following measurements:—3 feet 8 inches long, 2 feet girth, and 5 inches through the thick of the back. This fish was sold whole ten minutes after being put on the slab. The others weighed respectively 19½, 19½, and 18½ lb. During the afternoon he received two more, which had been taken at Montford Bridge, the largest of which weighed 24 lb. Messrs. Hammonds also had five very fine fish, caught by James Evans, of Melferley. Mr. Roberts, Wyle Cop, during the week, received no less than fifteen Severn fish, four of which were taken by two fishermen named Bryan and Littlehales on Saturday; the best weighed 19 lb., and was a very handsome fish. There was a notable fact about these—viz., one was quite a different-looking fish to the other, and had a great many more and pronounced spots, both on the body and head, than the ordinary Severn salmon. This fact was generally remarked. Four men fishing together at Buttington, on Wednesday, caught four, bringing their total for the week to fourteen. On Thursday, so great have been the number caught, that a stranger, who had eight, could only sell two to the dealers, and was hawking the others about trying to find customers for them. Thus, to my knowledge, during the week, nearly fifty Severn salmon have been taken between the above-mentioned places. This proves, without doubt, the beneficial effects of preserving our beautiful rivers, and gives those who are spending so much time in the work the greatest possible encouragement. The river is now getting in fine angling condition, and if we have some warm weather, fly fishers will be busy at once, as the fish are very much more forward this season than usual. A few trout have been taken with the minnow; but the weather has been very cold, and anglers scarce. On Wednesday Mr. John C. Mardol received two very fine fish which weighed 21 lb. and 18½ lb.—SEVERN SALMON.

Since the river has gone down after the last flood, spinning the minnow has had its run until another flood comes. The Severn has by to-day (March 26) lowered, so that the fly can be used, and I have seen several out with their rods; but with the exception of Mr. Harwood, our new fishing tackle maker here, no one, so far as I can learn, has been lucky enough to land anything. Mr. Harwood took three trout yesterday with the fly. The wind is now in the East, and no fish rising. Some splendid salmon taken with the nets at Shrawardine have been shown for sale at Mr. Roberts's on Wyle Cop this week.—SEVERN GRAYLING.

Suir and its Tributaries.

At last we have to record a favourable week, and such a week!—never in the memory of the oldest angler was such fishing. The following few instances will give some idea of the sport. The Knocklofty gave the following: March 18th, Captain Hamond, one, 7 lb.; Mr. Balfour, one, 25 lb.; 19th, T. Phelan, four, 25 lb., 13 lb., 12 lb., 7 lb.; Captain Hamond, one, 9 lb.; Mr. Balfour, one, 15 lb.; Mr. Courtenay Boyle, three, 14 lb., 12 lb., 12 lb. 20th.—Sir Thomas Troubridge, one, 18 lb.; Captain Hamond, one, 10 lb.; Mr. Courtenay Boyle, one, 11 lb. 21st.—Sir Thomas Troubridge, three, 18½ lb., 17½ lb., 15 lb.; Mr. Balfour, one, 9 lb.; Mr. St. Aubyn, two, 15½ lb., 5 lb.; Captain Hamond, one, 10 lb.; Mr. Courtenay Boyle, one, 14 lb. 22nd.—Mr. St. Aubyn, two, 12 lb., 12 lb.; Capt. Hamond, two, 11 lb., 9 lb. 24th.—Mr. Balfour, 12 lb., 9½ lb.; T. Phelan, three, 15 lb., 14 lb., 12 lb. 26th.—Mr. Courtenay Boyle, four, 17 lb., 13 lb., 11 lb., 11 lb.; Hon. A. Greville, one, 11 lb.; Captain Hamond, three, 20 lb., 14 lb., 14 lb.; Sir T. Troubridge, one, 11 lb.; T. Phelan, one, 10 lb., making in all forty-one fish for seven days. Mr. Cambridge Grubb got a 15 lb. fish at Garnavilla, a 13 lb. one at Ballycarron, and a 20 lb., 14 lb., and 12½ lb. at Kilcommon demesne during week. Mr. R. F. Hutchings got four fish on Saturday, and two on Monday at Lacken, 16 lb., 15 lb., 13 lb., 13 lb., 10 lb. Mr. E. Quinlan, six fish at Suirmount, two of which kicked the beam at 24 lb. and 22 lb.—DORA.

Teme (Ludlow).

The Teme this week is in first rate condition, having got perfectly clear, and at its natural level, the tributaries are also in good angling condition. Last Friday Mr. A. Whitbread caught a nice little pike, 2 lb. weight, with the trimmer in the Teme in Folly Water. Pike were plentiful for years in this portion of the Teme, but we have not heard of one being caught there for some time. On Tuesday a gentleman paid a visit to the Colin waters, and though there not more than a couple of hours, caught ten fine trout with the fly. The lot weighed over 7 lb. weight. The best fishing is confined to midday or a couple or three hours after. The flies which are doing most certain execution in this locality are the claret body, little blue dun, and the March brown, the claret body is the favourite. A few trout have been caught below Stevenon, adjoining Ashford quarter. Some very nice fish were caught in the Onibury waters on Monday fly fishing. Tuesday was a beastly day, the weather being disagreeably cold, and the wind plump east; the rivers banks were unbearable. The Corve has not been visited very much this week, but we saw an excellent basket of trout on Saturday afternoon, which the gentleman informed me he caught in that river up in the Felton district. A few fish have been landed near to the railway bridge. The Letwyche waters have no visitors of late, and at present all is quiet in that district.—S. LUDLOW.

Teme (Tenbury).

There is but little alteration in the state of the water in this part. The fine weather we have had of late has brought the anglers to the rivers' bank more freely than for some time. The trout in this part still continue to rise at the March brown and blue dun, and several very good lots have been taken with both those flies. On the 21st inst. some very good trout were landed with the blue dun, averaging from ½ lb. each. At little Hereford, on the 22nd inst., some good sport was had with both these flies, and a very nice lot of trout were landed. A few good fish were taken down the water the same day. On the 24th inst., a nice dish of very fine fish were taken in the water above the Bridge with the fly. A gent fished the water between Easton Court and Tenbury, and landed some very good trout with the fly. A gent tried the water with the worm on the 25th inst., but only landed two small fish. The

Kyre and Rea still keep in very good order for fishing. A few nice trout have been taken in the Kyre this week, but there has been but little doing in the Rea yet. The Ledwyche is still in very good state, and there has been but little fishing doing in it this week. To day the weather is very cold, and anglers by the waterside are very few.—WORCESTER.

Trent (Nottingham).

Salmon anglers have mustered in considerable force during the week. The weather has been cold, with searching winds blowing from the North and North-East; but these have proved no barrier to the sport, which has been of an exciting character, especially in the upper reaches of the river. Fortunately the water has been running at a very low ebb, and holders of licenses have been able to operate on the swims with some amount of comfort. On Tuesday a gentleman from Derby took four magnificent fish at Shardlow. They weighed 96 lb., and were purchased by a Nottingham fish dealer for upwards of £5 10s. Other fish were killed in the same length, and on Thursday Mr. Dickenson, of Nottingham, succeeded in landing one of 18 lb. On the previous day he played one estimated at 25 lb. for a period of fifty minutes, and then lost him. Mr. S. Sils, a thorough enthusiast, got his maiden fish—one of 10 lb.—in the Wilington allotment, on Wednesday; and here, I might mention, the fish are unusually numerous. The nets at King's Mills account for several; but it is a pity they are used, seeing that the lessee of the water lets tickets for angling purposes.—THE MAN AT THE CLUBS.

Waveney (Beccles).

Cold east winds prevailing during the past week have put a damper upon angling operations, and have left me nothing of any importance to report. On the 20th inst., W. P. Garrod, Esq., succeeded in landing five pike, two heaviest weighing 4 lb. each. Several were out on Saturday last, but nothing would tempt the fish to bite. Wind still east, but water clear and in good order for all-round fishing should wind change.—A WAVENEY ANGLER.

Wharfe (Yorkshire).

"Never cast a clout till May goes out," says the old Yorkshire adage; and seldom has it proved more applicable than in the present season. Last week the weather was more like June than March—'o-day people are shivering even with top coats on, under the influence of the keenest of "north-easters." A few trout have been taken this week, chiefly with "water-hen bloa." On Saturday afternoon I spent an hour or two on the water above Pool, but only took four grayling, which, of course, had to be returned. I saw the best dish of trout that I have seen this year so far last Saturday. They were caught on Friday, at Fewston, in the reservoir, by a Leeds angler. They were in good condition for the time of year, and one of them scaled 1 lb. 6 oz. The March brown is not taking well yet; in fact, I have only seen two or three on the river up to now.—FRANCIS M. WALBRAN.

Yore (Hawes).

"If the few misguided people who are agitating for artificial means being made to enable salmon to ascend above Aysgarth Force are snuffed out there is every reason to hope that the upper portions of the Yore may become what it once was—one of the best trout streams in England." This most exquisite piece of composition appeared in the *Craven Herald* of Saturday last. Comment is needless, as I am sure the intelligent portion of your readers will be able to enjoy thoroughly the elegant expressions and similes contained in the paragraph without any attempt on my part to point out the same. I see Mr. Walbran mentions the use of the feathers of small birds (English bred) in the making of flies. Have used the tail of the wren, wing of the robin, wing of the thrush, wing of the lark, and last, but not least, the wing of the house sparrow. The wing feather (upper side) of young cock sparrow is the nearest approach to the dotterel that I have ever seen. In the neighbourhood of Ingleton the wing of the swift is used with great success. I am of opinion that you can get a nearer approach in colour to the natural fly from the feathers of small birds than it is possible to do from feathers of larger size; also the fibres are finer, and the tints more closely blended. Fish are well on the rise, and the water in nice trim for fine tackle.—JOSEPH CORRY.

SCOTCH NOTES.

LOCH TAY.—The weather during the past few days has been variable. On Wednesday the Loch was in good fishing order, with a moderate breeze; on Thursday there was a violent storm; on Friday it was unsettled, but on Saturday the loch was again in good fishing order, with a moderate breeze. The following sport has been got since last report:—

KILLIN HOTEL WATER.—On Wednesday, Mr. Law, Edinburgh, killed a fish of 15 lb. On Thursday, Mrs. Law, Edinburgh, killed a salmon of 18 lb.; and in another boat Mr. Law had two salmon of 24 lb. and 17 lb., and a trout of 5 lb. On Friday, Mr. Law again had two fish of 17 lb. and 14 lb. On Saturday, Dr. Bell, Glasgow, had a fish of 23 lb., and Mr. Law one of 20 lb.

ARDEONAIG HOTEL WATER.—On this water on Friday, Mr. Maxwell, of Livingstone, caught a salmon of 13 lb.; Mr. Sprot, Edinburgh, one, 10 lb. On Saturday, on the same water, Mr. Sprot caught two salmon, weighing respectively 18 and 13 lb.

THE TAY.—The river is again in splendid ply, and good sport may be expected this week.

BIRNAM HOTEL WATER.—On Thursday, Mr. Peers killed one fish of 14 lb.; and Mr. Macgillivray one of 17 lb.

UPPER CARGILL.—Dr. Thomas and Mr. Kelson landed nine kelts on this water since last report.

THISTLE BRIDGE.—Mr. R. B. Marston, editor of the *FISHING GAZETTE*, London, fished this water, and killed a fish of 10 lb., and lost another.

CARGILL WATER.—Monday, Mr. Granville one fish, 17 lb.

UPPER CARGILL.—Tuesday, Mr. Marston, one 15 lb., and 6 kelts.

BURN MOUTH.—Monday, Mr. Marston and Dr. Thomas one fish, 18 lb. Mr. G. M. Kelson fished the same water, and hooked a large fish. After running it for nearly half an hour, it made a rush down stream for over one hundred yards, got round a stone, and broke away the hold. The river is in splendid ply. Fish very plentiful. Trout have begun to take the fly, and are in splendid condition for this time of season.

LOCH LUBNAIG.—For the past week the weather has been very stormy, and the loch in bad order for fishing. On Tuesday, Mr. Thomson, Edinburgh, killed a basket of trout, 12 lb., and on Wednesday a salmon 18 lb.

LOCHARD.—Four boats were out on Wednesday. Mr. Dunlop killed six trout, Mr. Lee and Friend six trout, and two anglers six trout. A number of anglers were forward on Thursday, but the loch was so stormy that they did not venture out. On Friday five boats were out. Mr. Glover and friend

secured seven trout, and Mr. Babbie and friend fourteen trout. There were other smaller takes.

LOCH CHON.—On Wednesday, Mr. N. Thompson opened the fishing on this loch, and secured eleven splendid trout.

CLUB AND OTHER JOTTINGS.

By L. B.

THE usual monthly meeting of the West Central Association of London and Provincial Angling Societies was held at the Portman Arms, Great Quebec Street, Baker Street, on Friday evening, March 21st. Mr. L. Bonvoisin was to have taken the chair, but being prevented by indisposition from being present, the post was filled by Mr. P. Geen.

After the reading and confirming of the minutes of the previous meeting it was proposed by Mr. Rich, seconded by Mr. Kayes, "That the discussion on Mr. T. Hoole's balance-sheet be deferred until the annual auditors have audited the accounts in June next," which was unanimously carried.

Mrs. Graham Smith's letter, laying claim to a private right of fishing the River Thames, opposite three villas owned by her on the Berkshire bank, at Maidenhead, was read, Mr. Geen stating that the matter had been brought before the Thames Rights Defence Association, who had decided to take action thereon, as a parliamentary commission had been appointed to inquire into the so-called rights of riparians on the Thames, and those equally claimed by the general public.

A letter was then read from the secretary of an angling society, informing the secretary of the West Central Association that a member of his (the writer's) society had borrowed a privileged card from a brother member with the object of obtaining a cheap travelling ticket, but that on presentation it had been detained by the booking clerk at the London and South-Western railway, a letter being also read from Mr. Verrinder, the traffic superintendent of the London and South-Western railway, inclosing the ticket, and asking for an explanation. All the facts having been admitted by the representatives of the society to which the offenders belonged, it was proposed by Mr. R. Murphy and seconded by Mr. Adeane, "That the two members' privileged tickets be detained, and the further consideration of the matter referred to the authorities of the London and South-Western Railway Company." It was also further proposed by Mr. Buttery, seconded by Mr. Adeane, and duly carried, "That Messrs. Geen and Tibbatts wait on Mr. Verrinder, and explain to him that though a breach of the rules, subject to which the cards are issued, had certainly been committed, yet it did not amount to a fraud, as both persons were holders of privileged cards." It was proposed by Mr. Buttery, seconded by Mr. Pearce, and duly carried, "That letters be written by the secretary to Mr. Hibbert, M.P., and Mr. Birkbeck, M.P., tendering their hearty vote of thanks for their efforts in connection with the Fresh Water Fisheries Amendment Bill, and for the courtesy they had extended to our president, Mr. P. Geen."

The roll was then called by the secretary, Mr. Tibbatts, the following societies answering to their names:—Anglers' Pride, City of London, Cambridge Friendly Anglers, Cobden, Duke of Norfolk, Golden Barbel, Good Intent, Grange, Gresham, Hammersmith United, Hampstead, Junior Piscatorial (late Knights of Knightsbridge), Prince of Wales, Portsmouth Waltonians, Princess of Wales, Queen's Angling Society, Rodney Piscatorials, St. John's, Silver Trout, South London, Waltonians, Waltham Park Piscatorials, Independent Jovials, and Messrs. R. Ghurney and W. Chambers from the United London Anglers' Central Committee. The usual vote of thanks to the chair and vice-chair brought the meeting to a close.

There was a West Central Association district paid the Grange Angling Society at their club house, the George Tavern, Fonthill Road, Finsbury Park, on Thursday evening, the attendance being good, and seven societies represented; a very jolly time was spent, among the visitors being Mr. H. J. Tibbatts, the new secretary of the West Central Association, who received a very flattering reception.

The annual dinner of the Waltonians Angling Society takes place on Wednesday next, the 2nd proximo. After dinner the rest of the evening will be devoted to harmony, toasts, &c., and brother anglers having an hour to spare will be made heartily welcome.

Fence Season.—Re swans; otters, other wild creatures, steam launches, and the destruction of spawn fish, and fish fry from all these sources. I should think it would be impossible to cram a greater number of inaccuracies into the small space occupied by the letter from Sir T. J. Nelson, reprinted in last week's *GAZETTE*. All anglers and lovers of nature will, however, read with keen pleasure Mr. Thomas Spreckley's complete answer to Sir T. J. Nelson's charges, and if this gentleman is not converted to better and kinder views he must indeed have closed his heart and hardened it, or he must be suffering from mental inability to grasp simple facts and draw from them plain common-sense conclusions, in either or both of which cases he is indeed a man to be pitied. Let us hope, however, for the best, and if the kindly moderate and common-sense letter of the chairman of the Thames Angling Preservation Society opens Sir T. J. Nelson's eyes, heart, and purse-strings, something well worth attempting will have been accomplished. I have been present at the meetings of several angling societies quite recently where the revision of the rules was under discussion, and in every case where alterations were being made in the size of weighable fish it was for increasing the measurement—slightly, I grant—an inch or half an inch here and there, but still it was an advance. This is as it should be; we are progressing in the right direction slowly, very slowly, some of us—but perhaps for that very reason all the more surely.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

WHICH FLY DID HE TAKE?

SIR,—Doubtless many of your readers, when salmon fishing, use two flies on the cast at the same time, and if my own experience goes for anything I am very sure they have often asked themselves the question at the head of my paper, when, having hooked and lost the fish, they were unable to see on which of the two of the flies he had been hooked. And yet there is a simple, but sure test, easy of application, which solves the question at once; but I have never met an angler who thought of using it, or had heard of its being used until I informed him of it.

And this is the story of how and when first occurred to me to put it into practice:—One day I was trout fishing early in the year, before there was much hope of a salmon having arrived, but there was one throw on which there might be a fish, and on the chance I had brought a couple of salmon rods with me. I had better here mention that the method of salmon fishing pursued in the river I was fishing in, more especially when it is very full, is that of putting a couple of rods—or three if you can manage them—over the stern of the boat and rowing across the throw in a zig-zag kind of way,—“haerling,” I believe it is called in some parts. So I had my two 18 feet rods out with a couple of flies on each curb, when I thought that just for the “fun of the thing” I might as well put another cast on the trout rod and hang it out between the other two. Need I say that before that cast was long in the water, I was into a fish on it and with nothing but 12 feet of greenheart to fight the battle.

I was on a broad and rapid piece of water; behind me the great river came tumbling over a weir wall, and some 100 yards lower down it broke into a roaring torrent, with all sorts of horrible submerged obstacles in it, abominations of nature added to by collections from the winter floods. So long as the fish remains above the torrent, it is all pretty plain sailing, and with powerful tackle a good deal of persuasion can be used to keep him above; but with a 12 ft. rod and a fish which I am sure was well in the twenties, compliance was more to the point than compulsion. The first thing to do is to get ashore, and get rid of the other rods, which is by no means so easy as it appears at first sight, and on this occasion it was a work of difficulty, for the fish fouled one of the other lines with the line of the rod he was on. I had therefore to work the two rods until the boatman secured the boat, wound up the line of the third rod, and eventually cut the line of the entangled rod. I was now all clear, and ready for any emergency, and one soon came, for although at first the fish played up stream and right into the foaming water at the base of the weir wall, where I plainly saw him, I had no power with the little rod to keep him up stream, or get him in to the bank. He then bored away down the river to the head of the torrent, and though I followed as fast as I could in the boat, he had a long line out when he got into the rapids, and when in them he and I parted company.

On winding-up, I found the hook of the upper fly broken, but the rest of my tackle intact. Still, all through the fight I had thought the fish was on the tail fly, and although the broken hook on the upper one was strong evidence in favour of that fly, I had my doubts. Then all in a moment this test flashed across my mind. I applied it at once, and assured myself that it was the tail fly I had hooked the salmon on. I smelt the fly, and it smelled very fishy. I tasted it, and it was more than nasty!

That the smell of the fish (what a sweet breath a salmon must have!) should remain on the fly after its being dragged a considerable distance through the water may appear hard of belief; but to any who may be unbelievers, I have on y to say, try the test yourselves. I have done so on many a subsequent occasion, and the most sceptical have had to acknowledge to the fact of both smell and taste adhering to the fly, and that the flavour remains longer, and is imparted by shorter contact with the fish, than is the smell.—I am, &c.,

Ballymoney, Ireland.

EASTERN.

SPINNING FLIGHTS.

SIR,—The best arrangement of hooks on a spinning natural bait is a query that sorely puzzles me. In discoloured water, with large hooks on coarse gimp arranged as under, I can hit nearly every fish, whereas in clear water they are of very little use. I miss fully 50 per cent. How is this? There is no mistake about the fish running. They go for the bait like bulldogs, but catch hold somewhat gingerly, as though suspecting all was not right. I send you herewith one of my original home-made flights fixed in the bait, and this is how I fix it: Place the loop of gimp in the eye of a baiting-needle which enter into the shoulder of the bait just behind the gills and near to the back, pass the needle out through the mouth, draw up quite close to the bend of the first pair of hooks burying the shank in the bait, now curve the latter with judgment to cause a spin, and enter one of the middle triangular hooks into the back beyond the curve; the end set of hooks fly loose behind. Thus, you see, I get a firm hold, which no hinge less than strong bearing power will dislodge—a consideration this in using tender bait such as sprats. Now for the finishing touch: Take a darning-needle, thread with worsted—or, better still, tatting cotton—pass through one nostril and out through the bottom lip, then back the reverse way, but on the other side of the mouth, and out through the other nostril. Take care to keep the gimp straight and in the centre between the two threads, tie up the mouth of the bait with a double knot, cut off, and you are ready for action. The hooks are few, and exposed as little as possible for obvious reasons. The end triangles I should very much like to do without, but do not see how they can very well be dispensed with. There are times when pike run short and snap at the tail when these flyers come into play. Could you see your way, Mr. Editor, to favour your subscribers with a few illustrations of flights differently adjusted, somewhat after the fashion of Mr. Jardine's snap tackle in your issue of 23rd December, 1882? I venture to say they would prove very interesting to all lovers of the art of spinning.—I am, &c.,

Bos' on, March 15.

THE BOSTON BITTERN.

[The plan described by our correspondent certainly gives a good hold on the bait, but it is too elaborate for nine out of ten anglers. We will endeavour to give some illustrations.—ED.]

COURT'S ENAMELLED RUST-PROOF HOOKS.

SIR,—We beg to inform your readers who wish to procure “Court's Enamelled Rust-proof Hooks” that they can obtain them from any retail fishing tackle maker or dealers. We do not supply retail, being strictly wholesale manufacturers only.

The enamelled process not being patented, we shall continue to label these special hooks with the label bearing C. Court's trade mark.

Having engaged Mr. Court to superintend the manufacture of these special goods, all letters and orders must be addressed to

S. ALLCOCK and Co.,

Fish Hook Manufacturers,

Redditch.

REPORTED NETTING ABOVE RICHMOND BRIDGE.

SIR,—Immediately upon hearing the report of some netting having taken place between Richmond and Twickenham, I commenced, with the assistance of Mr. Brougham, an examination of the persons whose names had been given to me.

The result of this examination has not afforded any decisive evidence as to the netting having taken place, but rather to the contrary. As, however, further inquiries will be made, I shall be glad in the meantime to receive any information that can be given in connection with it before publishing a final report.—I am, &c.,

THOS. SPECKLEY,

Chairman, T.A.P.S.

13, and 15, Cannon Street, E.C.

March 25th.

WATERPROOFING FOR HERRING NETS.

SIR,—I am pleased to be able at any time to give any information to my brother fishermen, although some in our trade fancy that all recipes should be kept as trade secrets. I must beg to differ from the general run, for I am never happier than when I am showing an amateur how to tie a fly or repair a broken rod.

We waterproof our herring nets in different ways: one plan is to soak them in boiled linseed oil for a few hours, and then spread them out in the open air to dry; this will take some three or four days, or sometimes more, according to the state of the weather. Another plan is to soak them in Stockholm or gas tar diluted with turpentine, and dry also in the open air. These two plans are open to objections, for they make the nets hard and wiry, and fish do not get meshed so easily in a stiff net as they do in a soft one. The plan I like best is that I use for my lines. We make a solution by taking $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. of catechu (which can be obtained from any ironmonger or druggist) to every gallon of water, boil it until all the catechu is dissolved, then put in your nets or lines, and let them stay all night, taking care not to have any heat or fire underneath the vessel while the nets and lines are in.

I generally add sulphate of copper in the proportion of $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. to the gallon (this acts as a “fixer” for the tan). When the things are taken out they can be washed in clean water and hung up to dry. By this last method the nets will be found very much softer; and I have proved from experience that nets preserved with oil or tar do not last as long as nets preserved with the ordinary tan or catechu. Some firms put a small quantity of size with the catechu—this I disapprove of; it may look better, but, after the first once or twice using, it is not only washed out of the twines, but takes a proportion of the tanning with it.—I am, &c.,

WILLIAM HEARDER.

Plymouth.

“I. C. U.” AND POACHING IN THE THAMES.

SIR,—I much prefer handling my rod, but I cannot refrain from taking up my pen to add my testimony to that of others in reference to the shameful practices carried on in the old river near Windsor. It is high time that notice was taken of it, and something done to remedy the present state of affairs. This portion of the river Thames is acknowledged to be one of the best fishing spots we have; yet, notwithstanding this fact and its being within twenty miles of London, it is utterly neglected.

May I ask your contributor, “I. C. U.,” to accept my warmest thanks for seeing that which others were blind to, and for having the courage to send the information to the FISHING GAZETTE. I also wish to thank you, sir, for giving it the publicity which it has received.

I know from experience that it requires courage and determination to attack abuses, as the inevitable result is that all the fully-charged artillery of those who have been lax in their duty is turned on to prove, as in this case, that he “saw too much and guessed a little.” It was ever thus.

In conclusion, I hope “I. C. U.” will continue to “see too much,” that his memory will ever be as fresh, and his courage not a little bit less than now.—I am, &c.,

WILLIAM W. GOOD.

NETTING DITCHES NEAR MAIDENHEAD.

SIR,—As the bailiffs of the Maidenhead, Cookham, and Bray Angling Association have had a second day's netting the ditches in the Maidenhead district, I send you the account of fish taken and returned to the Thames on Friday, the 21st:—Jack, 17; perch, 353; roach, 126; chub, 14; tench, 1. Will you kindly name it in your paper, THE FISHING GAZETTE, if this week, same as last, and oblige?—I am, &c.,

HARRY WILDER, Head Bailiff.

FISH-REARING FOR THE THAMES.

SIR,—It is a well-known fact by the readers of the FISHING GAZETTE that you are always ready to lend a help at any time that you hear of any thing to increase the sport of anglers in the Thames or any private streams.

You very kindly assisted in the matter of the Lund Breeding Boxes; but, if we are to have the Thames stocked with fish of all sorts, some thing more than hatching fish will have to be done; and, after many years' experience in fish culture, I am quite satisfied that the only way that the Thames can be properly stocked with fish is by making small nurseries in connection with the river.

Nurseries can be made on the side of any river, so that the coarse fish can be placed in the nursery to spawn, and then returned into the river, and the young fry will have the nurseries to themselves, and they would hatch in thousands; and, if allowed to have twelve months in the nurseries, they would be able to take care of themselves.

Only just think for a moment that there is not one fish-rearing farm on the river Thames, yet we have any number of associations spending lots of money for the purpose of stocking the respective branches of the river and depending on other private waters for what fish they can get.

There are plenty of side streams passing through private property that many gentlemen would oblige any of the associations with for fish-rearing. Any association would find it a paying trade if they could rear the following kinds of fish into yearlings:—

Trout.—Spotted beauties. I have reared many thousands of them from the ova; nursed them like a shepherd cares for his little lambs.

Grayling.—Happy little dears, who live so comfortable in large families. What a pretty sight to see them, when 'about the size of minnows, rise and take their food!

Perch.—Splendid fish, but not good neighbours when the young fry of roach, &c., are placed in the reach of them; but the perch must have food according to their nature.

Jack.—Ditto.

I am sure that there is not one association, say, from Marlow to Reading, but what would help to establish a fish-rearing farm for the Thames; and there is time yet for a few of these small nurseries so be made to take the spawn of the present season for an experiment.

I have constructed a nursery, at small cost, that will rear any freshwater fish, from the trout to the minnow. No enemy from the river can disturb their home, or anything from above—not the smallest fry of the roach can escape. The water can be supplied in any quantity, according to the strength of the fry.

If the Editor, or any gentleman that is well up in fish culture, will do me the honour of calling, I will with pleasure show it to them.

Fry of fish can be reared into yearlings by thousands every year. The nurseries would last many years. The food for the fry can be supplied, following the laws of nature. Apologising for taking so much space in your interesting paper,—I am, &c.,

The Ford Lodge, Iver, Bucks.

A. B.

BOOK ON NETTING AND NET MAKING.

SIR,—I have tried through a friend in town to procure some work on netting and net making, but without success. Can you or any of your many readers give me any information upon this subject?—I am, &c.,

Linden Vale, Exeter, March 27.

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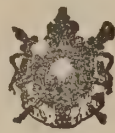
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THE LIVERPOOL ANGLING ASSOCIATION.

SIR,—The letter of Mr. R. Edwards in your issue of March 15th has somewhat surprised me. To his dignified rebuke in the first paragraph I humbly bend. But he goes on to say the famous resolution was not passed under a wrong impression. I have no doubt he is technically correct, but will he also say that the terms of it are identical with the original understanding between the two officials? For if this were so, why did "certain gentlemen, &c., &c., wait upon the committee and explain, &c."? It is not so very long ago that Mr. Edwards and several other gentlemen from Birkenhead were members of the Liverpool Angling Association, and I have heard him and them denounce in the strongest terms the small roach in their park lake as the greatest nuisance, and express the most fervent desire to get rid of them by any means. "Why," said one, "the little beggars are a great curse." And now all at once, when they had a big chance of getting quit of these little fry, they must have an equivalent of perch and tench. Not so bad this equivalent, Mr. Edwards. And fishing in the Birkenhead Park Lake has been permitted since 1858—twenty-six years—at, I understand, a charge of one guinea per annum. What has become of this money? Has it been thrown into the Great Float to improve the breeds of codling and whiting? Have the Birkenhead anglers gone on quietly for these twenty-six long years in a kind of dreamy sleepiness, hoping that perhaps some day there would be a great storm of big fish, and that some of them might take a fancy to the lake waters of the City of the Future and take up their abode there? But now that they have been rudely awakened by an attempt to filch from them their small roach, keep them awake. Mr. Edwards; never mind poor me, but go at your Town Council, and have your waters properly stocked. Yes, Mr. E., the Corporation of Liverpool have already done a line in yearling trout, will shortly do another line in two-year-olds, and other lines (with or without silver hooks) are looming in the near future. When will the Birkenhead Corporation do a line in this direction? It is quite time, surely, after a seep of twenty six years.—I am, &c.,

RD. WOOLFALL, hon. sec.



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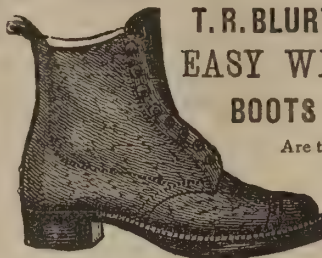
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Contributions are solicited, but the Editor will not undertake to return rejected MSS. unless accompanied with a stamped addressed envelope.

Correspondents are requested to write on one side of the paper only, and give their real names and addresses, not necessarily as signatures to their letters, but as a guarantee of good faith. Unless this rule be adhered to, no notice will be taken of such communications.

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The Fishing Gazette.

SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 1884.

PISCATORIAL SCRAPS.

By I. C. U.

Re "Consistency extraordinary," "Consistency a little less extraordinary," "The Feast," "The Netting."—The President of the Thames Angling Preservation Society's letter, in our last week's number, is to be admired as a perfect specimen of half-admission and half-denial; however, as we are promised a report of his society's investigation into these extraordinary proceedings, we must, of course, wait the fulfilment of that promise before much can be added to the facts already given. But, as it may be the means of saving time and material, I shall no doubt be excused for offering the opinion that it would be best that the report should be a full one, so as to place the angling public in a position to be the final judges, if necessary.

I hope no one will do me the injustice to fancy that I am wanting in admiration for the great efforts which the committee of the Thames Angling Preservation Society have made to preserve their twenty miles of the Thames. No one can possibly be more fully impressed with the importance of their labours or of the general effectiveness of their work than I am, but I have a duty to perform as well as they; and, if it comes to my knowledge that their keepers are "umpiring and feasting" while the poachers are netting their waters, I shall out with it; and I much mistaken in my estimate of the president and secretary of the society, and also of the committee, if they do not tender me their thanks for having done so.

The Sale Clause of the Mundella Act is only limited in its usefulness by lack of knowledge, and as it becomes generally known and understood that fish cannot be bought or sold during the fence season, no matter from whence they come, fish poaching will be stamped out during those three months when the country loafer and poacher used to be most busy with their nets and snares.

I have looked forward hopefully for the time—which has now apparently arrived—when our rural police would become a terror to the worst enemies of our sport, and when their admirable organisation would be available for the detection of offenders against our fishery laws.

There could be no better illustration of how effective police assistance can be to us than the following facts:—A mass of fish, estimated at a ton weight, was taken from the lake at Blenheim during some alterations to one of the sluice gates, which necessitated the drawing off a portion of the water. Information was at once given to the police, who immediately telegraphed to their stations at Oxford, Witney, Bampton, and other market towns, to have men on the look-out for anyone offering fish for sale, and the result was that Mr. Lancelot Collet was caught, summoned, and fined, for exposing tench for sale, in Oxford, on the 19th ultimo.

This Sale Clause is no doubt the kernel of the Mundella Act, and if we could only obtain another clause which would make it illegal to sell dead undersized fish at any time of the year, poaching would become so unprofitable as not to be worth the candle.

It is with much pleasure that I learn that the Marquis of Exeter is endeavouring to get the House of Lords to agree to the insertion of such a clause, and whether he be successful or not, coarse fish anglers will be none the less pleased with and grateful for his lordship's kindly interest on their behalf.

The Oxford Preservation Society's Annual Dinner.—I have possibly attended as many angling and angling preservation society's dinners as most men, and have as a consequence thereof been compelled to listen to speeches good, bad, and indifferent on my pet hobby, angling. How many times have I not been compelled to wish A. would shut up, that B. had not commenced, and that something would happen which would shorten, if only by a half-hour, C.'s prosy, rambling, and unedifying remarks. I don't wish it to be inferred that I am adverse to speechmaking when the speaker has anything of interest to tell us; but of talking for talking's sake, I have already heard far too much to be in love with it. I am pleased to report that the speaking at this dinner was unusually good, to the purpose, and in some instances pregnant with interesting facts, and delivered with a degree of eloquence quite exceptional.

To commence with, A. Wheeler, Esq., the president of the society, proved himself a model chairman, which I could not help wishing some of my friends would copy; there was none of that fussiness and perpetual "Be brief" which only has the effect of spoiling the good speeches and lengthening the bad ones. I know several chairmen who do not care to hear anyone but themselves, and no matter how clever they may be, this is a fault, but a fault from which Mr. Wheeler is entirely free. His speech was a very practical one, and full of encouragement for the officers and members of his society. Mr. Cooper, who has taken a leading part in the work of this society, was deservedly cheered as he showed how fully he had studied the subject of preservation as carried out in other countries beside our own. Mr. Kelson, the secretary, also made a most capital speech, as did Mr. P. Geen, who concluded by asking them to allow him to become an annual subscriber. Mr. Butler, from Reading, showed how much he was in earnest by saying, "I have grown to like the work, and while at one time I thought of resigning my position as secretary of the Reading, I now intend to stick to it until my members kick me out." (Laughter.) Mr. T. Spreckley, as is usual with him, succeeded in gaining the full sympathy of his hearers, and as he was in good form he made splendid use of his opportunity. There were some half-dozen songs, of which it can truthfully be said that they, like the speeches, were as near faultless as one could wish them.

Mr. Kelson, the secretary, in referring to the necessity of such a society as theirs, spoke of the FISHING GAZETTE, wherein a contributor under the *nom de plume* of "I. C. U." told the angling world that the Thames near Oxford was more cruelly poached than any other part of the river, and he would give facts and names if required. He, Mr. Kelson, said, "I don't know who 'I. C. U.' is, but I should say he is not an Oxford man, but a Londoner; and if so, is it not a standing reproach to us that a stranger can truthfully write this? We know our waters are poached, and as honest men must admit it, but as earnest men we are determined to put a stop to it." (Cheers.)

It should be said that a very earnest and kindly reception was given to Messrs. Spreckley and Geen, who had come to Oxford for the second time to assist the society with their advice and support. The deputy-mayor invited these two gentlemen amongst others to breakfast, which was to be followed by a friendly conference which would enable those most interested to have a further exchange of ideas.

Lock-keepers on the Thames and poaching.—It may be stated that, as a rule almost without exception, the Thames lock-keepers are men more or less interested in the preservation of the fishing, and are aware that second only to the duty of facilitating navigation is the duty imposed on the Conservators, by more than one Act of Parliament, of preserving the fish. The general honesty of purpose and desire to do their duty on the part of the lock-keepers must be admitted by anyone who has come so much in contact with them as myself, and therefore it is with pain and deep regret I learn that one of them habitually and considerably augments the wages which he receives from the Conservators by the sale of netted Thames fish.

I don't wish to anticipate in any way the decision of the Board of Thames Conservancy, before whom the facts have been laid, and who have promised to investigate them, as no doubt they will evince their usual desire of protecting their servants, at the same time not forgetting their duty to the public.

There are one or two facts in connection with the case which are admitted, and therefore no injustice can follow their being generally known. Richard Treadwell, the Conservancy's lock-keeper at Eynsham, is an expert at the art of net-making and net-using, and the fruits of his twofold talent is that he has frequently a quantity of fish for sale, which he finds a ready market for in the town. Mr. Geen, the president of the West Central Association, who is an honorary river-keeper, has discovered Treadwell netting a backwater which runs from the Thames and into it again, but in deference to the fact of his being a Conservancy servant he has thought it best not to seize the net and summons the man, but to report the case to his employers. Just at this time Richard Treadwell found that two large jack had during the flood then on worked up a ditch, and to ensure their easy capture he placed a net across it, which barred their return. On the 12th of March one of the fish, weighing 11 lb., was netted and purchased by Mr. P. Geen for 6s. 6d., and forwarded to Captain Burstal, together with a full statement of his case against their lock-keeper, which we shall, of course, get a fuller report of when it is disposed of by the Board.

The members of the Waltonian Angling Society met in great force on Wednesday last to partake of their annual dinner. The spacious club-room was filled with faces which seemed quite familiar to me. The chairman, Mr. Marriott, the vice-chairman, Mr. Dodge, and the secretary, Mr. Packman, are old and esteemed friends of mine, as are also Mr. Bonvoisin, the chairman, and Mr. Tibbatts, the secretary of the West Central Association. I am sorry my space only permits me to say that it was a good dinner, followed by capital songs and pithy speeches, and that I hope the Waltonians will spend numbers of such pleasant evenings, and that I. C. U. may be with them.

The sub-committee of the National Fish Culture Association met at South Kensington, on Thursday, and some important business was transacted. I am glad to see that the chief object of the society—viz., fish culture—is kept steadily in view. Arrangements are being made for the exhibition of coarse fish and salmonidæ hatching apparatus at work. I think I am not wrong in stating that any *bonâ fide* angling society renting or watching a stretch of water can have some of the surplus fry reared by writing at once to W. O. Chambers, Esq., secretary of the National Fish Culture Association, Health Exhibition, South Kensington.

The Railway Concessions.—We have now to face the disagreeable fact of the prophecy of Mr. P. Geen, who has during the past twelve months told the anglers of London on every available opportunity that their lack of organisation led to such frequent and unpardonable abuses of their railway concessions, that he felt sure it could only be a question of a short time to bring about their withdrawal. So late as at the West Central Association's meeting on the 21st ultimo, he said, "We have had our first, second, and third serious caution, and I expect that the next intimation will be one of far more serious import to the great bulk of the London anglers."

It is now my unpleasant duty to announce that the Great Northern, the Midland, and the London and North-Western have decided to withdraw these concessions; and, in all probability, the secretaries of our three associations will by the time this is in print have received official notification of this fact.

Our Editor.—I hear his sport in salmon fishing in Scotland was very good. He hopes to say something about it next week, having found an accumulation of work to get through on his return. I understand he is very irate at the way the river Don is dammed up, to the injury of the salmon fishing, and wishes some of the obstructive riparians were in the same position. But hear ye him.

I. C. U.

COREGONUS FROM AMERICA.—The Marquis of Lorne has received from Canada half a million of eggs of white fish, indigenous to Canadian lakes, with a view to introducing these fish into British lakes.

GEORGE JAMES EATON, of Sturkholmes, Matlock-Bath, Derbyshire, respectfully invites Noblemen and Gentlemen to try his standard FLIES for the present season. No flies sent or made up but what he himself has proved sure killers. A trial is all that is required, from gentlemen who can fish, to prove whether they may be genuine or not. Patronised by some of the best fishermen of the day. All flies dressed on the best Kendal hooks. Prices; Point Flies, 2s. 6d. per Dozen; Dropper Flies, 2s. per Dozen. Orders punctually attended to.—(ADVT.)

HOUSES WITH FISHING NEAR LONDON.

A FRIEND, who has recently been house hunting, with the object of getting a house and some water, writes to us:—"I have found pretty nearly what I want, and, having been searching in every direction, have seen a good many places of the kind. If any of your readers would like to have particulars of them they can, by applying to 'J. P. T.,' through you. Of course, the houses may be let at any moment, and I have no interest in the matter beyond a wish to help anglers." He says, one place, in Herts, has the New River running through the grounds and a lovely rivulet besides. The rent is £56.

EPITAPH ON LEOPOLD, DUKE OF ALBANY.

DIED MARCH 28, 1884.

Oh son! worthy of thy sire,
A nation weeps for thee;
Thy life, too frail for faction dire,
Shining in useful arts, we loved to see.

'Midst stormy seas, on burning sands,
The brothers' names we know;
In lowly hearts, with faithful hands,
Thy memory, warm, will ever glow.

Canonbury, March 31. E. H. (OLD ANGLER).

NOTICES OF TACKLE, &c.

MR. J. A. DUNBAR, of Inverness, writes:—"I beg to inclose you a new style of putting a trout fly on gut, which I brought out last year. The advantage of it is, as you will see, that the fine gut is not so apt to go at the head, as is nearly always the case with flies on single gut, which often loses the fly before it is nearly worn out, and very frequently losing a heavy fish by its being chafed at the head. My new style reduces these dangers to a minimum. I tie them on double and single hooks to any pattern, but much prefer fishing with them double when they come to a very small size, as they take such a much firmer hold of a fish, the danger of a single-wire hook being, with a heavy fish in particular, that when the fish is on a long time the fine, single wire, constantly strained on the hold in the fish's mouth, cuts its way through, and off goes the fish when it is almost landed—the double hook holds them firm. If you think the idea worthy of note in your paper, you will oblige by referring to it."

"JOHN A. DUNBAR."
[We should think Mr. Dunbar's plan would answer admirably for Scotch loch fishing, and he is perfectly right in what he says about the double hooks, as the one steadies the other, and double hooks brazed together are driving the single hooks off the Tweed, especially in small and medium size salmon flies. Of course, there is nothing new in using double hooks. We noticed some capital midges on double hooks sent us by Mr. Stevens, of Berwick, a year or two ago, only the hooks were not brazed. This must be carefully done, or the temper will be spoiled.—ED.]

MR. J. W. MARTIN (the "Trent Otter"), of 4, Northern Buildings, Lovers' Lane, Newark-on-Trent, sends us his Catalogue of Fishing Rods and Tackle of all kinds. We can specially recommend it to the notice of those who want good useful things at the lowest prices.

MR. THOMAS ANDERSON, of 16, Calder Street, Edinburgh, writes: "I send you one of my built-cane rods with my new reel fittings for your inspection, and a word or two in your valuable paper will be highly esteemed." This is a nice little 11-foot split cane rod on the American pattern, and as it is very moderate in price it ought to find a ready sale among those who prefer cane to hard wood rods, and judging from the numbers made now both in America and this country, the demand must be a lively one. The secret of success in fishing with these split-cane rods is to use a heavy reel line (but with a rather fine taper), as a light line fails to bring out the power of the rod. All those who sell these rods should remember this; it will often prevent disappointment.



REUBEN WOOD,
BORN DEC. 22, 1822. DIED FEB 16, 1884.
(SEE FISHING GAZETTE, MARCH 8, 1884)

A STEAM FISHING SMACK TO COMPETE WITH THE TRAWLERS.

MESSRS. JOHN CRAN AND CO., of Leith, send us the photograph of a steam "Line Fishing Boat," the "Venture"—rig, main and mizzen masts, with fore and aft sails. This little vessel has been built on the usual East Coast fishing boat lines, as an experiment for line and herring fishing, the steam being of great service in bringing the fish fresh into the market in light or contrary winds or calms. It was built to the order of Mr. Cook, Fish Merchant, Newhaven. Length over all, 56 ft.; beam, moulded, 16 ft.; depth, 7 ft. 6 in.; engines, compound; 8 in. and 14 in. by 12 in.; Cochran's upright boiler for 80 lb. working pressure. The success of the "Venture" has induced others to follow the lead, and there is little doubt that this class of boat will be of great advantage in enabling our fishermen to hold their own against steam trawling, and will add greatly to their safety. It would be a capital boat for fishing the Irish West Coast.

NOTICES OF BOOKS, &c.

RAMBLES WITH A FISHING-ROD.*

THIS pleasant little volume is a reprint of articles which have appeared in different papers, describing some holidays spent by the author on the Continent. We should have noticed it some months ago, but that in one of those fits of "tidying up," which periodically attack the fair sex, it got consigned to the top shelf of a bookcase, and was accidentally discovered during a serious hunt for another missing volume. If our author has experienced the utterly shipwrecked, dismasted, lost condition in which the male creature finds himself after one of these domestic cyclones has swept through the house, he will accept our apology. The first symptoms of the storm consist of sundry orders delivered from the quarter-deck at supper-time. Next morning, when the first mate comes down, he finds everything that is not under canvas on its beam ends, and, if he is wise, he will secure any loose property of his that he wishes to see again, by placing it out of reach of the tallest steps and longest broom in the establishment, and even then it is not safe.

In his first "Ramble," the author introduces his reader to the Salzkammergut and the Tyrol, districts which will be familiar to many of our readers as those in which Sir Humphry Davy fished and chatted about in his "Salmonia." Here is an extract from it, describing the Fall of the Traun, Upper Austria. Time—July.

"Poietes.—This is a generous scene! And the fall of this great and clear river, with its accompaniments of wood, rock, and snow-clad mountain, would alone furnish matter for discussion and conversation for many days. This is quite the paradise of a poetical angler; the only danger is that of satiety with regard to sport, for these great grayling and trout are so little used to the artificial fly, that they take almost anything moving on the top of the water. You see I have put on a salmon fly, and still they rise at it, though they never can have seen anything like it before—and it is, in fact, not like anything in nature."

Mr. Roscoe, visiting this river nearly half a century later, does not write so enthusiastically of the fishing. "The trout-fishing is, from what could be gathered about it, fair in the spring—especially in May; and in the autumn there is the grayling in season." His own experience of the river was, however, but a very short one; for, after rising a couple of fish, a miller let down a lot of muddy water, which at once put an end to any chance of sport.

What a pity it is that the accumulations in the mill-dam are not "worked off" at night, like the daily papers! We know nothing more exasperating just when the rise is coming on than to have a flood of vegetable soup let down on to you, filled with cabbage-stalks, turnip-tops, and all the rest of the village kitchen refuse. Frequenters of the Farningham Water will perhaps have had experience of this, with sundry tin pots into the bargain. In the Aussee, a lake about a mile and a half long by half a mile wide, Mr. Roscoe found the natives using a minnow tackle exactly similar to that described by Sir Humphry Davy as in use when he visited this lake, a kind of drop minnow reversed. He did not do much in this lake—indeed, we can hardly say that a perusal of his work is likely to cause anglers to rush off to the waters he described, his sport, as a rule, being most indifferent, a catalogue of blank days, in fact. In the Adige he got 10 lb. of grayling with a small whirling dun.

"Pike-fishing in the Black Forest" is a title from which one would expect a "big bag," at any rate; but no—"an unexpectedly good beginning" in the shape of a 3 lb. jack ends in nothing more, though the description of the day's fishing is interesting enough. Nor does our author appear to have been more fortunate when on a fishing trip in Connemara—one or two sea trout and a dozen or two of brown trout are all the captures he records; all the same, this chapter contains much information which the angler will find useful. After saying, as he does, that "fishing for roach can scarcely be dignified with the name of sport, but it must afford as much pleasure as catching gudgeon from a punt," we fear he will not get much credit for his statement in another place—that he is "far from feeling a contempt for those milder kinds of fishing which are the delight of metropolitan anglers." We prefer to think that he does not know much about these milder kinds of fishing, or he would never compare the play of

a 1½ lb. roach on the tackle necessary to capture it with gudgeon-fishing. It is perfectly true that there is no sport like fly-fishing, and we admit we prefer it to any other; but there is no necessity for the fortunate angler who can indulge in this sport to look down from his position, and say, "I am not as this poor roach-fisher." We know scores of anglers, enthusiastic salmon and trout-fishers, who are just as enthusiastic when their fly-fishing has to give place to pike, perch, barbel, or roach-fishing; and it is not only ungenerous, but quite a mistake, for those who have opportunities which others have not to claim that this or that kind of fishing "cannot be dignified by the name of sport." Sport, after all, is only another word for pleasure or diversion, and to say that your poor angler when killing a heavy roach on single hair does not feel as much pleasure as a salmon-fisher fast in a 20-pounder is absurd. If anyone doubts this, let him take a walk along the Thames and watch some bank angler, who, after perhaps hours of patient fishing, standing in cold water with naked legs, catches a decent fish. See how the news flies among his less fortunate competitors, how proudly the fish is exhibited, how carefully stowed away. Follow him to the railway station; note how often the prize is willingly brought forth for general admiration; little else is talked about in the journey home. See the delight of the "missus" and the youngsters; and then—proud moment—when the fish is "weighed in" at the club, and by general consent is pronounced worthy to be stuffed as an adornment to the room and lasting evidence of the skill of the angler. Does not the memory of the "sport" that fish gave lighten his toil through the week, make his pipe taste sweeter, and his hard lot in life more bearable? Visions of still bigger fish flit through his brain; and if ever he "strikes oil," and can rent his salmon river in Scotland or Norway—as has happened before now—he will be the first to tell you that the killing of his biggest salmon gave him less pleasure than the capture of that big roach under Richmond Bridge.

This is somewhat of a digression, but we trust to be pardoned, even by our author, for endeavouring to point out that, even if his means do not permit him to fly at high game, to alter the words but not the spirit of those simple but splendid lines of Burns, "A sportsman's a sportsman for a' that."

One of the pleasantest of Mr. Roscoe's chapters is that describing "A Spring Ramble in Normandy," which appeared originally in this paper. The next, recounting "A Week at a German Castle," is also very good; but as our author states he has "seldom fished for them in England," we cannot accept his inference that German grayling are more game than those of England. We should like to have a day with him on the Test in September; if it came to that test he would alter his opinion, for it is certainly not, as he surmises, the "more rapid character" of the German streams that makes them a "stronger and more active fish." For instance, the Yore above Tanfield, the Wharfe at Burnsall, and the Derbyshire and Yorkshire Doves are all essentially "rapid" streams; but their grayling, though far superior in flavour, do not fight like those of the comparatively very slow Hampshire streams. We do not for a moment wish to disparage the grayling of the Yorkshire and Derbyshire streams, or those of Herefordshire either; but judging from experience, we can only say that those of Hampshire show more fight, frequently leaping from the water like a trout, and "size for size," as Mr. Roscoe says, are "distinctly gamier and stronger fish than trout." It is only in the Hampshire rivers that we have experienced this difference, unless we make an exception of the grayling of the Costa, near Pickering. When fishing there recently we were frequently reminded of the play of Test grayling, and, curiously, the Costa is an exact counterpart of the Test, only much smaller; it is a regular "chalk stream" in appearance, like the celebrated Driffield stream, and is simply crowded with the freshwater shrimp. In our opinion, it is the abundance of this food in the Costa and in the Hampshire streams which makes the grayling so strong and full of fight, and at the same time spoils their flavour.

"A Diary at Davos" (Switzerland), the title of Mr. Roscoe's next chapter, concludes as follows:—"Such were my experiences of the Davoser See (lake) at the end of August and the beginning of September. The days noted were not consecutive, but occurred during a stay of ten days in varying weather. I think they bear out the result which has been stated at the commencement of this paper, that fishing on this charming lake is very well as a break in the regular amusements of a mountain resort; but that it is not good enough to form the main amusement, or to bring a stranger to this valley who desires to have plenty of sport."

The next chapter, "On Fishing Tours Abroad," is rather general than particular; and the same may be said of the last, on "Sea-trout Fishing," which is a description of that fascinating sport. Whether the sport to be obtained at the places visited by Mr. Roscoe is no better than he himself experienced we cannot say, but he deserves all credit for the extreme candour with which he recounts his adventures, and for that reason we are the more inclined to think that unless favoured with exceptionally suitable weather and water, any angler following in his footsteps would not be likely to fare much better, for he is evidently no novice with the fly rod. His little work reminded us continually, in more ways than one, of that most charming of all Mr. Francis Francis's books, "By Lake and River," a record of "great expectations" continually disappointed, but none the less interesting, and—shall we say it?—perhaps far more trustworthy for that very reason. Mr. Roscoe has a keen eye for the beauties of nature and the eccentricities and humours of humanity, and can describe them both easily and pleasantly. We can recommend his little book as a welcome and valuable addition to the endless library of angling literature.

* "Rambles with a Fishing-rod." By E. S. Roscoe. William Blackwood and Sons, Edinburgh and London. Small post 8vo. 152 pp.

* "A man's a man for a' that."

CLUB REPORTS.

ANCHOR AND HOPE ANGLING SOCIETY.

The fourth annual meeting of the above club took place on Wednesday, March 26th, when the distribution of the season's prizes took place, the following being the successful members of the prizes taken:—Gross weight: Mr. A. Shaker. Specimen fish: Jack, Mr. W. Sreeton; barbel, Mr. H. Klein; bream, Mr. H. Klein; roach, Mr. C. Daniels; dace, Mr. A. Glass. The cup given by Mr. Rollings for the largest perch taken during the season was won by Mr. A. Glass, with a perch, 1½ lb.—D. DAVIS, sec.

ANGLERS' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

Since my last report I beg to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of £1 1s. from the Act on the Square Angling Society, 10s. 6d. from J. Cooper (naturalist) Radnor Street, St. Luke's (annual subscriptions), and 10s. 6d. donation from Stevenson Smith, Pitt's Head, 1, Old Street, E.C. A special general meeting will take place at the Foresters' Hall on Wednesday evening next, April 9, to make arrangements for the anglers' tournament. Chair to be taken at nine o'clock.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

CENTRAL ASSOCIATION OF LONDON ANGLING SOCIETIES.

The next delegate meeting will take place on Friday, April 11th, at 9 o'clock.—J. FITCH, sec.

GRESHAM ANGLING SOCIETY.

The usual weekly meeting was held on Tuesday evening at the Mason's Hall Tavern, Masons' Avenue, Basinghall Street; Captain Alfred in the chair. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Doctor Brunton, who weighed in a very fine trout of 3½ lb, taken without gaff or net, called the attention of the meeting to the admirable manner in which bait could be preserved for any length of time and retaining all the appearance of freshness by the use of a preservative, known as King's Preservative Fluid. He strongly recommended it to the notice of anglers, and as an instance of its effectiveness, stated that he had kept two dace in perfect condition for upwards of six weeks, although they were only partially immersed in the fluid. Mr. Thomas also bore testimony to the merits of the preparation, and gave a most interesting account of his recent salmon fishing in the Tay. In accepting the unanimous request to represent the society at the approaching Loch Leven competition, Mr. Thomas expressed the pleasure it gave him to represent a society he so highly esteemed as the Gresham, and trusted to be able to "give a good account of his stewardship," a wish which was heartily joined in by all present. Mr. Bates, who had been trout fishing in the Thames, gave a very hopeful account of the grand old river, and suggested that the chairman, who had a great deal to do with various preservation societies, should bring under their notice the injurious effect of the steam tugs upon the trout in the Thames. He also thought that it would be better to remunerate the water bailiffs by a payment for each conviction, than the present method of a yearly salary. Important additions were made to the prize list by Mr. Benningfield, Mr. Thomas, and Mr. Bates. The list, now a large one, will be drawn up by the secretary, and suspended in the room. On the motion of Mr. Bates, it was resolved to enter on the minutes a resolution expressing the deep regret with which the society had received the sad intelligence of the death of H. R. H. the Duke of Albany. A vote of thanks having been accorded to the chairman, the meeting was brought to a close in the usual manner.—H.

IZAAK WALTON ANGLING SOCIETY.

The members who intend being present at the supper on Wednesday evening next, the 9th inst., are requested to give in their names to the secretary not later than the 6th inst. Mr. W. Wiltshire has opened the trout season with a brace of very handsome fish.—H. B.

NEWCASTLE AND GATESHEAD IZAAK WALTON ANGLING ASSOCIATION.

Since my last report there has been nothing done in the way of angling, the north-east wind having put a stop to fishing in this part. Messrs. Dodds, Lamb, Armstrong, Davison, Watson, and myself have all tried the Tyne, but, beyond getting a few small trout, which were returned, we had to return with empty baskets. On Saturday, March 15th, Mr. Heron showed eight trout, at the club-house, he having fished the Tyne, at Hexham. On the same day, Mr. Messenger and son, of Newcastle, tried the Tyne, at Prudhoe, Mr. M. having only a couple of dace, but his son having a fine trout of 1½ lb. At the time of writing the waters are very low, and unless we have some rain there will be no sport here for a few days.—J. MAJOR.

QUEEN'S ANGLING SOCIETY.

The above society held their fourth annual dinner on the 26th of March at the Black Bull, Notting Hill. The dinner was a great success, there being nearly sixty who sat down to dinner. Mr. and Mrs. Webb, the host and hostess, provided an excellent spread, to whom the club owe many thanks for the first-class style in which everything was provided; and Mr. Webb not only made an able host, but a good chairman. After the usual toasts had been given and responded to, the company was entertained with some first-class singing and an able band. After this the presentation of prizes took place. Mr. Pearce took gross weight with over 2 cwt. of fish; Mr. Walford took sec nd with 134 lb. Specimen prizes were taken by Mr. Walford, Mr. Webb, and Mr. Pearce, after which many more prizes were presented. Several gentlemen after this presented the club with a very large and useful number of prizes to be fished for in the ensuing season. We are sorry to say that our late landlord, after promising the club a prize, and upon our secretary sending him a letter to remind him that it was due, returned the letter to the club, which conduct does not reflect much credit upon him. The progress of this club during the last six months has been surprising, as it has more than doubled the quantity of its members, and has at present a great many members to propose for the coming season, and with the large number of handsome and useful prizes that are in hand to be fished for, should, with the assistance and better attendance of the members, command great success. The North-Western, the Cavendish, and the Ealing Dean clubs were represented. The club wish to thank their friends for their kind support.—L. WALFORD, hon. sec.

RICHMOND PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

The usual weekly meeting was held at the Station Hotel, Richmond, on Wednesday evening last. Mr. A. J. Little occupied the chair, and Mr. H.

Dickinson the vice-chair. Amongst other questions which came on for discussion, were, first of all, that of "gross weight competitions," when it was unanimously resolved to offer prizes for specimen fish only. Then followed the desirability of discountenancing money prizes, and the original principle of the society of not giving those kind of prizes was very strongly supported and approved. It was unanimously resolved to give the usual subscription of five guineas to the Thames Angling Preservation Society, and the vote was suitably acknowledged by Mr. W. Brougham. The chairman announced the capture of a trout of 8½ lb. at Teddington Weir.—B.

ST JOHN'S ANGLING SOCIETY.

If Mr. A. Smith, No. 211, a member of the St. John's Angling Society, calls upon me as above, he will hear of something to his advantage. If you will kindly inform him of the same you will greatly oblige.—W. TAUNTON, The Griffin Tavern, Central Meat Market, Smithfield.

THE GRANGE ANGLING SOCIETY.

On Monday last the above society had their second fish supper this season, when thirty members were present. Mr. Mitcham occupied the chair, and Mr. Varney the vice-chair. An excellent supper, consisting of stewed eels, fried soles, fried mackerel, crimped skate, boiled salmon and shrimp sauce, &c., was provided by the caterer, Mr. Aldous. During the course of the evening several very good songs were sung by Messrs. J. H. Rich, Leverett, Aldous, Adams, Kimber, Varney, Humphries, Haigh, Plaet, and Johnson.—W. K.

THE PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

On Monday last the usual weekly meeting of this society took place, and there was a good attendance of members. Mr. Gillatt was voted to the chair. Early in the evening a very fine salmon was weighed in, caught by our skilful member, Mr. Hare Winton, in the public subscription waters of the river Avon, at Ringwood. It was in the height of condition, a fresh-run fish, and weighed 27 lb. Mr. Winton succeeded in its capture after one hour's skilful play, but had to enter the water bodily to gaff him. The health of Mr. Winton was drunk most heartily. A formal vote of thanks, to be recorded on the minutes, was proposed by the chairman and seconded by Mr. T. Huggett, co Messrs. Blamey and Harrison and those gentlemen who so kindly assisted at the concert last week. In looking over my report in the FISHING GAZETTE, I find I omitted to mention two charming songs sung by Mr. H. F. Amory—"Mary of Argyle" and "Tell Her I Love Her So"—which were both warmly applauded. Mr. Blundell proposed and Mr. H. B. Brown seconded the nomination of two new members. Dr. Brunton also proposed a new member, and was seconded by Mr. Adlington. Mr. T. R. Sachs made some interesting remarks on a fish from the Danube and its tributaries; and there is an article upon the same subject in "Blackwood's Magazine" for March. The fish attains a size of 60 lb., and is called the Danube salmon; it is not migratory. Mr. Sachs believes it might be introduced into the waters of the Thames. Dr. Brunton brought the promised volume of Walton and Cotton, and it was added to our library. Some of our members were absent, it being the eve previous to the opening of the Thames trout fishing season. May they have good sport. "Success to the Piscatorial Society" and a vote of thanks to the chairman terminated the business of the meeting. Committee meeting, next Monday evening.—T. H.

UNITED LONDON ANGLERS.

The usual monthly meeting of the committee will take place on Monday next, April 7th, at 9 o'clock. This is the 12th anniversary of the United London Anglers' Central Committee, the first grant of Anglers' Privilege Tickets in London being made by the Great Eastern Railway to the Hoxton Brothers in 1872 and transferred by them to the London Angling Societies.—S. MORGAN, Chairman.

UNITED LONDON FISHERIES SOCIETY.

The improved hatching boxes are now stocked with perch and are in operation, two at Mr. Wheeler's, the King's Arms, Waltham Abbey, and two at Mr. Longmate's, the Red Lion, St. Margaret's, three minutes walk from Great Eastern Railway Station. They may be seen at either place on application. It is proposed that this season, after the perch are removed, to try bream, a supply of which has been promised from Norfolk.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

TWEED NET SALMON FISHING.—These fishings have improved considerably during the last week. Prices are—salmon and trout, 1s. 7d. per lb.

THE LONDON AND NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY AND THE HOLIDAYS.—The London and North Western Railway have made special arrangements throughout the whole of their service for the convenience of holiday-makers. For an outline of particulars see the Company's advertisement in our columns.

THE GREAT EASTERN RAILWAY AND EASTER HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS.—We have much pleasure in calling our readers' attention to the programme just published, showing the special facilities offered by this company for obtaining tickets at City and West End booking offices, and at the Liverpool Street Station, as shown on page 167, also as to the additional trains to be run for the Easter holidays. For the accommodation of the public tickets are issued, and the programme can be had at the following booking-offices:—Great Eastern West End Office, 44, Regent Street, two doors from Piccadilly Circus; Blossom's Inn, Lawrence Lane, Cheapside; 48, Lime Street, City; Spread Eagle, 3, Whittington Avenue, Leadenhall Market; Swan with Two Necks, Gresham Street; Messrs. Cook and Son, Ludgate Circus, Fleet Street; Messrs. Cook and Son, First Avenue Hotel, Holborn; Messrs. Gaze and Sons, 142, Strand; 16, Holborn; Golden Cross, Charing Cross; 70, St. Martin's Lane; 28, Regent Circus, Piccadilly; Spread Eagle, Piccadilly Circus; 34, Albert Gate, Knightsbridge; 33, High Street, Kensington; Mr. Whiteley, Westbourne Grove; 241, Oxford Street. For all stations on the Great Eastern Railway for use on forward dates. A special booking-office will be opened at the Liverpool Street Station on 7th, 8th, 9th, and 10th April for the issue of tickets for use from Liverpool Street Station on any day up to and including 14th April, 1884.

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improved principle. Salmon, 6s. 6d.; Trout, 5s.; smaller do, 3s. 6d.
Silver for Gilr,

JAMES OGDEN'S

Multum in Parvo Fly Rods.

PRICE 21s.,

The enormous and increasing demand for which is a sufficient guarantee for the high
estimation in which they are held by the leading anglers of the day.All Standard Flies ordered, or dressed correct to pattern, will be despatched by return of
post.

N.B.—NO CONNECTION WITH ANY OTHER PERSONS ASSUMING THE SAME NAME.

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TACKLE CASES, ETC., ETC.New and Improved General Tackle. Refined Specialities, adapted to the needs of the
most experienced of living Fishermen, whose requirements have been so successfully met
by us for upwards of Fifty years.The articles described are of the best and most useful make, constructed by Practical
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further their extensive reputation.Re Information.—In lieu of the GIMCRACK TRASH so frequently found in
Trade 'Guides' to the use of angling requisites, plain logical information is
printed, descriptive of the most sterlingly valuable appointments.

FOSTER'S, OF ASHBOURNE,

will forward FREE to all applicants any of the above lists.

The whole—forming the largest list of tackle in print—posted free for Two
Stamps.

"Art, empire, earth itself, to change are doomed."—THE HERMIT.

EXCHANGE.

Things Wanted—to BUY, to SELL, or to EXCHANGE.

N.B.—We take no responsibility whatever in connection with advertisements inserted
in this or other parts of this paper; but beg our readers to expose any case of im-
position. The prices for inserting advertisements in this "EXCHANGE"
column are 6d. per line for one, or 4d. per line for more than one insertion.
Address Manager, FISHING GAZETTE, 12 and 13, Fetter Lane, London, and send
stamps with the order, or the advertisement cannot be inserted.WANTED.—Particulars and prices of Secondhand Books on Angling and Fish Culture.
Must be in good condition—Address Editor, FISHING GAZETTE, 12 and 13, Fetter Lane,
London, E.C.Splendid Trout Flies, price 8d. per dozen.—J. Palmer, Littleworth, Redditch.
Rev. Houghton's British Freshwater Fishes, beautifully bound, quite clean, price 40s.
—E. S. Shrubsole, Maidstone.

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RIVER REPORTS.

TIME OF HIGH WATER IN THE THAMES.

To find the time of high water in the Thames at any of the following places,
to the time of high water at London Bridge (given below).

	30 minutes for Chelsea.
	40 " " Putney.
	45 " " Hammersmith.
Add	50 " " Barnes.
	55 " " Kew.
	75 " " Richmond.
	80 " " Twickenham.
	85 " " Teddington.

Example:—If it is high water at 2 o'clock at London Bridge, it will be high
water at Teddington about 3.25, or eighty-five minutes later; but it must be
remembered that a strong wind accelerates or retards the tide very much.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.

			Morning.		Afternoon.
For Saturday, April	5	..	9.38	..	10.20
Sunday, "	6	..	10.59	..	11.34
Monday, "	7	..	12.0	..	12.4
Tuesday, "	8	..	12.32	..	12.56
Wednesday, "	9	..	1.17	..	1.37
Thursday, "	10	..	1.54	..	2.12
GOOD FRIDAY, "	11	..	2.28	..	2.45

THE LOWER THAMES.

THE TROUT SEASON.

The good old days of trout catching in the Thames are beginning to return, as evidenced by the capture of eighteen good fish in one week last year. There are still on the war path some of those who will remember when Thames trout were very plentiful, and the number of good fish they used to catch each season. It is now fourteen years since Mr. James Forbes, of Chertsey Bridge, landed his monster trout of 14 lb. 9 oz. at Chertsey Weir, and in addition to this his splendid museum contains a number of remarkably fine and handsome specimens of trout, all of which were taken by himself on spinning tackle. Mr. Edward Lukyn, of Sunbury, has also a large collection of good specimens of Thames trout of his own catching. These two gentlemen possess greater evidences of trout catching than in all probability any other Thames trout angler; but there are the names of Messrs. Robert King, T. R. Dyer, A. Frickenhau, Francis Francis, F. Hyam, F. C. Parker, W. A. Crump, T. R. Sachs, and others still in existence which are emblazoned on the roll of Thames trout catching achievements. In the year 1870, when Mr. Forbes caught his champion trout, Mr. F. M. Hyam, a member of the Thames Angling Preservation Society, took nine trout with his rod at Shepperton Weir, weighing altogether 64 lb. 14 oz. It is remarkable in the same season not a single fish was caught below Hampton Court, and yet Teddington Weir was always proverbial for trout victories, the late William Kemp having taken as many as six good fish in the week. It is many years since there existed such great expectations as has been the case in the present season; and the probabilities are, if the weather keeps right in April and May, those expectations will be substantially realised. The character of fishing for trout in the present day is, as a whole, more of a sportsmanlike type than it used to be. Going back to a period of a quarter of a century ago, it was no uncommon thing to see punts moored in places where trout were known to be feeding, and as many as three floats on the surface of the water, with live bait underneath, whilst the occupant was whiling away his time with fumes of tobacco and a tankard of beer, waiting for a run. The powerful influence of the press, through the representations of Mr. W. H. Brougham and his aquatic colleague, Mr. Greville Fennell, in time put a stop to this pot-hunting process—the men became literally ashamed of being seen doing it. Although the weather on the opening day was to all appearances favourable for trout fishing, and a considerable number of anglers were out, there was very little done in trout catching. Two well-known anglers tried the Weir at Teddington from early morn to mid-day, and not having any luck they changed their quarters to Shepperton. Mr. W. J. Burningham, with his attendant fisherman, John Johnson, just came down from Kingston, and were not long at Teddington Weir before a good fish was hooked, and with a little assistance from Francis Kemp, was safely landed. It weighed 8½ lb., and measured 24½ inches in length, and 17 inches round the girth. Joseph Glover, at Richmond, was very nearly landing a 7 lb. trout, which had been hit by a punt pole, and was a little stunned, but he had no sooner got it in his hand when it recovered consciousness, and to his astonishment slipped away, and is left for some angler to have the difficulty and pleasure of catching it. A gentleman fishing with Edward Rosevell, at Penton Hook, on Thursday afternoon, caught a pretty little trout of 3½ lb. Some fine barbel up to 10 lb. each have been caught, and of course put back again. Mr. Burningham, who is a member of the Thames Angling Preservation Society, is to be congratulated on his successful landing of the first trout (and a good one too) of the season.

UPPER THAMES.

As far as I can glean nothing as yet has been done in the upper waters of the Thames amid the trout. The winds of the past fortnight have precluded any chance of successful sport. I hear of some nineteen punts being out on Tuesday between Staines and Abingdon, but not a fish worth record was had.

No matter!—the time will come when I shall have to report the take of 8 or 9 dozen, as I am fully assured the Thames at the present moment contains them. All up-river men are pleased at the stand Mr. J. Greville Layard is taking against Mrs. G. Smith's preposterous assumption of her rights in the Maidenhead water. I herewith enclose you letter of Mr. L.'s published in the *Maidenhead Advertiser* of Wednesday. Mr. J. G. L.'s pluckiness should be satisfactorily backed up by all anglers Thamesward bound.—MARLOW BUZZ.

Datchet.

Water in fine order for trout fishing, and the weather all that could be desired. There have been four fish caught in Windsor Weir, averaging 2½ lbs. each. I was at the bottom of Windsor Weir stream on the 2nd and saw six fish feeding all about the same time. The Datchet reach, without doubt, holds as good a number of large fish as any part of the Thames can boast, but nobody seems to come to fish for them. That is really too bad. I went out on the morning of the 2nd to obtain relief from a trout fever that has been troubling me for some time, and, in a short space of time, had the satisfaction of landing a beauty 7½ lbs.—GEORGE LUMSDEN.

Wraysbury.

Water low and very bright. Can hear of nothing done by trout anglers. There are several leaping just below the weir in the "Old Fleet."—ROACH.

Oxford.

The water is in splendid condition for trout fishing, but the affluent streams are very discoloured from yesterday's rainfall, and I apprehend that by this time to-morrow (Friday) a change will be apparent. As yet, I have heard of no trout having been observed in the city district, but I believe the weir pools will furnish a fair quota of sport during the season. On Friday last Lancelot Collett, of the Market Place, Woodstock, was summoned at the Oxford Police Court for exposing six tench for sale in the parish of St. Michael's, on the 19th instant, contrary to the fourth section of the 1878 Freshwater Fisheries Act. Mr. Dudley prosecuted on behalf of the Police Committee, and asked the bench to inflict the full penalty stipulated in the Act of Parliament, which especially stated that no person should buy, sell, or expose for sale, any fish during the close season, which extended from the 15th of March to the 15th of June, both days inclusive, under a penalty of forty shillings, as the defendant had been cautioned a few days ago that if he came into Oxford with fish again during the close season he would be prosecuted. William Veables, corporation water bailiff, stated he saw the defendant expose for sale freshwater fish in the Royal Oak public house on the day in question. He had been warned on the previous Saturday against selling freshwater fish during the fence months. The defendant pleaded the fish were caught by accident, and that he bought them from the keeper of the Duke of Marlborough; he was ignorant of the law, and he promised not to do it again. The deputy-Mayor (Mr. Wheeler) said he would not have an opportunity for another month, unless he paid the clerk of the court £1 8s. Morally speaking, Mr. Collett is a very hard used man; legally he committed a breach of the Act, and if he will go on selling fish he will find in the end his bargains are rather expensive; but I certainly must say that it was a great oversight to include Tench in the Munde la Act, as just at the time—i.e., August—they really require protection, they are afforded none whatever. Surely such an unreasonable restriction should be expunged.—CHEERWELL OTTER.

Ancholme District.

Tempted by an improvement in the weather, I took down my fly-rod yesterday, and spent an hour or two by the side of a small local beck, which I am stocking with trout. The brewers have well-nigh killed them all. I only had six rises, but managed to save two brace of beauties. The largest was 2½ lbs. good weight. The other three ¾ lb. each. The water still remains very low.—THOMAS FORD, Caistor.

Ballynahinch.

For this last week we have had very changeable weather, which is much against angling. On Monday we had a fall of snow, which lasted four hours; but to-day it has got quite mild, and wind south, which looks more for settled weather. The following are the takes for the week:—On the 26th ult., Mr. Shum, one salmon, 10 lb.; on the 27th, Mr. T. A. O. Taylor, one, 12 lb.; and Mr. E. Middleton, one, 12½ lb.; on the 28th ult., Mr. Dudgeon, one, 16 lb.; and Mr. Sutherland, one, 14 lb.; on the 31st, Mr. Dudgeon, one, 12 lb.; Mr. Gardiner, one, 12½ lb.; Mr. J. J. Mackenzie, one, 12 lb.; on the 1st inst., Mr. Dudgeon, one, 15 lb.—WALTER BLACKADDER.

Blackwater (Mallow).

March 19th, John Bolster, one, 16 lb.; Michael Sheehan, two, each 11 and 20 lb. On the 20th, James Meller, one, 11 lb.; G. A. Hodgson, two, each 10 and 11 lb.; Brook Brazier, one, 15 lb.; A. Benn, two; J. M. Browning, two; J. S. Pearson, five, each 9, 9½, 12, 12, and 22 lb., on the Kilbarry Water. On the 21st, Brook Brazier, one, 10 lb.; Major Brown, one, 12 lb.; H. J. Menzies, Scots Guards, five in one day, each 9, 12½, 17½, and 27 lb.; Fleming, on Colonel Roberts' water, five, one of them 25 lb.; on Thursday last, Mr. Lamont landed four at Carrig; General Gibbs, four, Mr. Astley, three; James Meller, two, 15 and 17 lb.; G. A. Hodgson, one. On the 22nd, W. Alcock Stawell, one, 20 lb.; Mr. Meller, 10, for past week on the Carrig Water; Mr. Cauliff, five for past week, each 9, 10, 11½, 12, and 13 lb.; Mr. Astley, three, 11, 14 and 22 lb.; John Oylott, three, each 11, 13, and 16 lb.; T. Lane, 13, for the past week, five of which averaged 20 lb. each; John Hanlon, four, three of which weighed 45 lb.; Joseph Carpenter, three, 11½, 13, and 15 lb.; Michael Sheehan, seven, for past week; R. Hunt, six, for past week, each 8, 10, 11, 17½, 18, and 19 lb.; Patrick Lane, four; Joseph Hunt, three, each 9, 11, and 13 lb.; Richard Willis, three; Mr. Coote and Captain Digby (on the 24th), B. Williamson, two each, 13½ and 17½ lb.; Dawson Damer, Scots' Guards, four, each 24½, 18, 15, and 12 lb.; Mr. Sidebottom and Mr. Marridge, ten for the past week, on the Ballyhooly waters, from 9 to 20 lb. On the 24th, Mr. Cauliff, two; Fleming Colonel Roberts' sportsman, at Kerry, three, each 28, 22, and 18½ lb.; Robert Smith, one, 18 lb.; Captain Digby, one, 14 lb.; 24th, Mr. R. Pinney, two, each 12 and 14 lb. On the 25th, Major Galwey, R.E., two, each 10½ and 11 lb.; M. Bayley and Mr. Longbottom, six in one day; William Bolster, one, 16 lb.; Mr. Cauliff, one; A. Hay Gordon, thirteen in five days, average 13 lb. each; Doctor Creagh, one, 18½ lb. On the 27th, Major Davies, two, 14½ and 10½ lb.; Honourable Robert White, one, 18½ lb.; Major Galwey, R.E., two, each 11 and 20 lb.; James Miller, two, 11 and

12 lb.; Mr. Hodgson, one, 14 lb.; Mr. C. Murphy, five for past week. On the 28th, Captain Digby, two, each 18 and 20 lb.; R. Pinney, one, 13 lb.; R. Smith, three for past week, two 12 lb., and one 23 lb. On the 29th, B. Williamson, two, each 10½ and 17½ lb.; Mr. Cauliff, one, 10 lb. The following is an account of the fish killed by Captain Digby, of Coeshill Park, Warwickshire, and Mr. Pinney on the Meycallop Water, from the 25th March to 2nd April,—25th, three; 28th, three; 29th, four; 30th, two; 31st, two; April 1st, one, and on the 2nd, two. River not in order to-day, as a fresh came down this morning.—J. HAROLD, Mallow.

Coln (Wraysbury).

The "Pool," or "Waste Gate," contains a lot of splendid trout, and I am expecting to see one or two 6 or 7-pounders ere long. It will be a case of first come first served, for it is only a small bit of fishing. Mr. Barratt, the man in charge, will give full particulars upon application. Mr. Gurney's Water, Colnbrook, contains a few nice trout, and is open now for 2s. 6d.—Trout only.—ROACH.

Coquet (Weldon Bridge).

On the 28th, Messrs. Bambridge creel five dozen, per the two rods. On the 31st, it was a strong wind from the east, like a day in December, and the sport very poor; the Rev. Mr. Oliver creel nine brace; Mr. Smurthwaite, two and a half brace. During the night rain fell, and quite a change for the better. On the 1st there was some good sport, and good class of trout killed. Mr. Wood, two and a half dozen; Mr. W. Rowe, three dozen; Mr. Smurthwaite creel 6½ lb.; Mr. Gibbons, 4½ lb. On the 2nd., Captain H. Orde, creel 3 lb. 2 oz.; Mr. Gibbons, creel seven brace, all with fly.—A. GLASS.

Dee and Don (Aberdeenshire).

A good many gentlemen occupied their beats last week almost every day, but the results obtained were on the whole very poor. Easterly winds are still interfering more or less with the success of the angler. For the past ten days both rivers have diminished in size, and increased in clearness every day. Sport could not, therefore, have been otherwise than poor, but a change has now taken place, and the outlook is somewhat more encouraging. The past week, taking it all over has been the least productive of any since the commencement of the season. On some of the reaches not a single fish was landed. The lower sections of the river in particular, as indicated by the results, gave evidence of the scarcity of fish. The net fishing, poor the week before, fell off more and more almost every day. Seldom have we seen the Dee so small during the month of March. Small darkish flies have been a good deal used since the falling of the river. On the Don trout have not been rising so much since the cold, easterly wind set in. The consequence is that we have no special takes worth reporting. To-day (Tuesday) a good deal of rain has fallen, and both rivers have increased considerably in volume. The Dee shows a rise of ten inches or so—surface level. With favourable weather and a change in the direction of the wind, a manifest improvement should be noticeable ere long. Reports to hand from the Dee:—Kingcaulie.—Monday: Archer Irvine Fortesque, Esq., 1 fish, 10 lb. Drum.—Friday: A. Muirhead Aitken, Esq., 1 fish, 8 lb. Durris Lower Water.—Dr. McDonald and party frequently enjoyed good sport. Wester Durris.—Tuesday: Colonel Hills, 1 fish, 9 lb.; Thursday, R. S. Hills, Esq., 1 fish, 12 lb. Crathes and Kineskie Beats.—No fish landed. To all appearance very few salmon about. Inchmarlo.—T. Barbour, Esq., Monday, 1 fish, 8½ lb.; —Whittaker, Esq., 1 fish, 8½ lb.; Friday, 1 fish, 9 lb. Blacklaws.—B. Warwick, Esq., Monday, 3 fish, 7, 9 and 15 lb.; Tuesday, 2 fish 9 and 9 lb.; Wednesday, 1 fish, 11 lb.; Thursday, 2 fish, 7 and 12 lb.; Friday, 1 fish, 10½ lb. Cairnton.—T. Farley, Esq., Monday, 2 fish, 8 and 9 lb.; Tuesday, 2 fish, 9 and 10 lb.; Thursday, 1 fish, 9 lb.; Saturday, 4 fish, 8, 9, 10 and 12 lb. Woodend.—For week, Major Traherne, 2 fish, 8 and 10 lb. Aboyne.—Lord Granville Gordon, 1 fish, 27½ lb. Reports of Messrs. Wm. Blacklaws and Son, rod and fishing tackle makers, Kincardine O'Neil: Barrow's one Water.—Captain Geo. Abercromby, Monday, 1 fish, 8 lb. Desswood.—Stewart Farquhar, Esq., Monday, 1 fish, 11½ lb. North House.—Major Leith Hay, Monday, 1 fish, 10 lb. Desswood.—John Harper 3 fish, 9, 9, and 8 lb, during week. Borrowstone.—John Harper, 4 fish, 8, 8½, 9½ and 10½ lb. Commonly.—G. Duncan, keeper to Dr. Farquharson, of Finzean, M.P., Thursday, 1 fish, 9 lb. "Angling almost at a standstill, the river being too low and clear, and very few fish in the pools." Report of Mr. George Smith, saddler and tackle maker, Ballaer, Monaltrie.—F. Pickop, Esq., Friday, 5 fish, 8, 8½, 9½ and 10 lb.; Saturday, 2 fish, 8 and 9½ lb.; T. G. Seymour, Esq., Tuesday, 3 fish, 8, 8 and 9 lb.; Thursday, 1 fish, 9 lb. Invercauld Arms Hotel Water.—J. Muller, Esq., Tuesday, 5 fish, 7, 9, 9, 10 and 18 lb.; Friday, 1 fish, 9 lb.; Saturday, 4 fish, 8, 10, 10½ and 11 lb.; D. G. McGregor, Esq., Monday (this week), 2 fish, 9, and 9 lb. The Don.—Parkhill.—Mr. Forbes, Jun., of Fintray.—Thursday, 2 fish; J. H. Bott, Esq., on Grandholm.—Monday, 1 fish, 10 lb.; J. Campbell, 2 fish, 10, and 10 lb.; Saturday, 1 fish, 7 lb. Kintore, Friday, 1 fish, 7 lb. Kintore Burgh Water. Mr. Fowler 2 trout 1½, and 2 lb. Don Cruives Water.—G. M. Kelson, Esq., London 1 fish, 7 lb. Kintore Burgh Water.—Thomas Wat, Esq., 2 fish, 9, and 14 lb.—W. M.

Dove.

Sport has improved since my last. We have had a seasonable change in the weather, copious rains having fallen in the district, while the temperature has risen, and all the conditions are more favourable for fishing than when I sent my previous communication. I keep still hearing of capital catches of salmon in the Trent, five falling to the rod in a single day, and two to another, in forty minutes. The last named couple were secured by the aid of the phantom. Every day will now bring fresh troops of piscators to the banks of our river, and I fancy the following flies will be found the most effective during the present month: the blue and cockling ed duns, the cow dung, the March brown, and the yellow dun.—THE SPODDER.

Eden (Armthwaite).

The takes of salmon have been very good here for the last week. George Ferguson has caught six; Mr. Austin, at Leoline Wrangle, two; and Mr. Cowan, of Lealston, staying at the Red Lion, one 20 lb.; at Carley, on Friday, William Stephenson took one, 20 lb.; J. B. Slater, two on Saturday, and on Tuesday, W. Stephenson, one 12 lb. The water rose yesterday, which prevented sport, but we hope in another day, sport will be resumed.—SKIDDAW.

Eden (Carlisle).

I have only received meagre reports of sport this week, and conclude that results have not been so favourable as last week. On March 27th Sam Wright killed two fish below Carlisle; 28th, Tom Bird, keeper at Armthwaite, one, and Stevenson, keeper at Corby Castle, one, 20 lb.; 29th, Mr. Slater, two good fish, 13 and 18½ lb., and Sergeant Bove, two. On the 31st ult., Mr. Preston, the

well-known courteous station master at Carlisle, hooked three fish in the Crosby water, but was unlucky enough not to land one. He had an hour's tussle with one big fellow, but they parted company after all. I have not heard the weight even hinted at. Probably, if Mr. Preston had had the usual qualification of a good fisher, the fish would have been a 50 or 60 pounder; but he is not fully educated as an angler, so has not yet learnt to lie. Trout have taken the fly pretty well lately, Archdeacon Prescott being to the front with some very good baskets. We had heavy rain with thunder on Wednesday, which raised the river nearly a foot. In a day or two trout fishing should be in full swing.—SILVER GREY.

Exe and Barle. (Dulverton).

Having had heavy rain, our rivers are now thick, but a few hours are sufficient for them to clear after the rain ceases. Fishing will probably be good for the next few days. During the past week, trout have been taken with the olive dun, hare's flax upright, and blue upright. Few strangers have been in neighbourhood for fishing as yet, but an influx will take place next week.—C. WHEELER.

Exe (Exeter).

Since my last report Mr. Pearson has caught several salmon; but I have not heard the several weights. Mr. Lea, of the Elephant and Castle, also took five, three in one day, weighing 18½ lb., 16 lb., and 14 lb. respectively; Mr. Dudley, some nice trout, near Cowley, with worm and March brown alternately. Water now very thick indeed, and rain falling heavily.—J. A. KELLY.

Exe (Tiverton).

Very little has been done during the past week (owing to the water being thick) until yesterday, when some very good baskets were taken. The olive dun, blue upright, and hare's flax seem to be the flies preferred. This morning a great quantity of rain has fallen, and the river is at present very thick. If no more rain, it will be fishable on Saturday.—WM. MUDFORD.

Lakes of Killarney.

The lakes are getting in good order at present, and we have some good sport. On 26th March, Owen Courmane got 2 salmon, 20 lb. on the lower lake with spoon bait; Tim McCarthy, 2 salmon, 23 lb., with flies, and brown trout of 5 lb.; John Robert, 1 salmon, 12 lb.; John Downing, 1, 12 lb.; John Cornell, 1, 12 lb. 27th, Owen Courmane, 1, 11 lb.; John Downing, 1, 10 lb., with spoon baits; Michael Gleessane, 1, 12 lb. 28th, Mr. J. Ross, 1, 13 lb.; Tim McCarthy, 1, 11½ lb.; Callaghan McCarthy, 2 salmon 23 lb.; on Flesk; Captain Bloyed, 30 brown trout; Lieutenant Roberts, 23 brown trout, the largest, 1 lb.; several ½ lb. On the 29th ult., Pat Robert, 1 salmon, 10 lb.; Tim McCarthy, 2 salmon, 23½ lb., killed with flies; James Hayes, 1 salmon, 11 lb. 30th ult., Michael Gleessane, 1, 10 lb.; John Downing, 1, 13 lb. 31st ult., Tim McCarthy, 2 salmon, 24 lb.; John Roberts, 2 salmon, 25 lb.; Mr. J. D. Curtauey, 1, 14 lb.; on Flesk; Mr. Burtin Morrick, 4 salmon on the lawn, 40 lb. April 1st, Michael Doona, 1 dozen trout; John Bradley, 1 dozen. April 2nd, John Cornell, 1 salmon, 20½ lb.; Maurice Gleessane, 1 salmon, 17 lb.; Jerry Robert, 1, 13 lb.; Pat Roberts, 3 salmon, 33 lb.; Tim McCarthy, 3 salmon, 32 lb. Glena net did very little last week. Muckross, 35 salmon, the largest, 20 lb. As I write the wind is turned to the N.E., and looks like holding there for some time.—TIM MCCARTHY, Fisherman.

Lugg and Arrow.

Both these streams are now slightly coloured, and they have risen a few inches since last week, owing to the late heavy downpour of rain with which this part has been visited the last few days. There have been but few visitors to these waters this week, as the fish will not take the fly the water being discoloured. At the end of last week some good fish were landed with the fly, but the nasty weather has upset all fishing for a short time. On the 28th ult., a gentleman visited the Arrow with the blue dun, and landed some very fine trout, some weighing 1 lb. each. A few nice trout were taken in the Lugg the same day with the March brown. On the 29th, in a tributary to the Arrow, some very good fish were taken with the fly. In the Lugg, some good trout were landed on the same day, with the fly. A few fish have been taken in the Ivington district, and a few in the Shobden waters. The Pinsley is in nice order for fishing, as it clears itself quicker than the other waters: some few good fish have been taken in it this week with the fly. In the Monkland district notices are now posted all along the water-side, forbidding anyone to fish without leave from Captain Curis, who is strictly preserving all the water of that part.—GWYNNE.

Lyn (Lynmouth).

Some good baskets of trout have been taken this week, and in very good condition. The rivers are in splendid condition for fly; taking flies are—March brown, blue upright, and silver twist.—WM. BEVAN.

Moy, Ballina, and Lough Conn.

Fine weather last week brought the river into good order for angling, although blowing an easterly wind and rather cold; Mr. P. Atkinson, on the first day he tried, hooked four fish, one of which he played for half-an-hour, and lost when nearly ready for the net. This fish was not under 20 lb., and fought hard in the rapids between the upper bridge and the weirs, several times running close up to the Queen's gap and down to the arches of the bridge. Eventually he got off by the hook straightaway. Next day Mr. Atkinson hooked three fish, one of which he landed, a fine springer 18½ lb., the first fish of the season. He gave grand sport in the strong rapids under the salmon weirs; Mr. Atkinson also got a nice fish at Pontoon Bridge. On the lake, Mr. H. M. Tuite killed 2 salmon 11½ and 8½ lb., and Mr. Martley three trout, 7½, 3½, and 2 lb. The weather is now fine, and looks as it were to continue. Should it do so, by Easter week river and lake will be in splendid order, and I expect there will be good sport.—FRANK HEARNS.

Pickering (North-East Yorkshire).

Fishing matters have improved much in this district lately. Several nice takes of trout have been had with both minnow, fly, and worm, the latter since the late genial rains which commenced on 31st March; both trout and grayling have risen much more freely the last week, than for a long time. Blue and olive duns appear to be the most plentiful flies at present. A great many pike have been killed in this neighbourhood lately, notable amongst which is one weighing 21½ lb., 40 inches long and 22 in. in girth, killed in the Wye. How many salmon smelts, and trout will this customer have consumed in his lifetime? This fish was the largest taken for some years with the exception of a 24½ lb. fish taken in the Wye last summer, and a 24 or 25 lb. fish killed at Tedingham on the Derwent, also last summer. As grayling fishing is now closed on all open waters, pike are sure to get more attention paid to them, being exempted from

the close season clauses in the Mundella Act throughout the whole of the Yorkshire Fishery District.—NORTH EAST.

Ringwood.

Some fine salmon have lately been caught on this celebrated stretch of water belonging to Mr. John Morant, and under the direct and genial control of Mr. Ward, of the white Hart, three fish, weighing respectively 24, 29½, and 31 lb. falling to the lot of Sir Harry Burrard, the largest of which being hooked in the most difficult part of the water, but owing to deep muddy creeks and old stumps, &c., afforded an hour's most exciting sport and for the opportune arrival of Mr. Fisherman Hurdle, the hon. baronet's keeper, would have no doubt met with a very watery and muddy grave. Mr. Winton has also been fortunate in taking a couple of clean salmon of 27 and 28½ lb., one of which would never have been landed but for the plucky and decisive manner Mr. Winton took upon himself the rôle of mermaid, and twice did gallantly swim the river, and thus eventually secured success. Such exploits are rare, but on some occasions are absolutely necessary and always most amusing. Major Percy got a beautiful fish of 30 lb., and several gentlemen have come down from London and got good large pike, the largest being 17 lb. At the present time of writing there is a good deal of fresh water in the river, so next week the fishing will sure to be very good, and a great many fish are showing themselves in the pools.—H. G.

Severn (Shrewsbury).

On Monday the river was fit for fly, but rain fell during the day, and the fresh coming down put it in capital order for spinning. On Tuesday I went out for an hour or two in the morning, and landed a trout of ¾ lb. weight, which was in grand condition. He ran the minnow three times and was slightly pricked on each occasion. I also basketed a smaller one, and had another run. This would be before 8 a.m. and I was extremely sorry I could not spare the whole day to continue the sport. Several anglers soon found out that the river was in right trim for spinning, for by 10 o'clock and during the day I saw several out. A good-sized trout was hooked and missed, not far from the Railway Bridge. In contrast to prior years, we can now often meet the river keeper, and I am sure the energetic and regular manner in which Lloyd visits the various points on the river deserves to be noticed. It is evident that his watchfulness and the stopping of the netting has greatly improved the fishing. The Severn is now too high for anything but bottom fishing. We, however, hope for some splendid sport during the Easter Holidays. I regret to add that four perch, weighing respectively 2, 1½, 1½, and 1 lb., besides smaller ones, were taken with the worm at Uffington last Saturday. Considering that they were no doubt full of spawn, it is a pity that they were not returned to the river. Have nothing else to report this week as the takes have not been large.—SEVERN GRAYLING.

Taw (N. Devon).

The river have risen since Monday, and dirty; salmon fishing commenced April 1st, and so far I have not heard of a fresh fish killed. At Southmolton Road, I heard of a dish of two dozen good trout; at Eggesford a gentleman hooked a salmon before the season, but turned it back, and took two or three fair dishes of trout. I heard of two dishes of over two dozen in the Yeo, last week, and a dish in the Bray; but now the real April weather has set in, I shall have ere long, some good sport to record. The rivers will be right for Easter.—RUSTY GAME.

Teme (Ludlow).

The water here is rather coloured, and somewhat higher than it has been for a week past. The tributaries are in a similar condition, and fishermen have not been over-eager to patronise the river banks. At the latter part of the week, trout to the amount of 5 lb. weight were caught in the Teme between Stevenston and Ashford Weirs. The flies used were the March brown and little blue dun; the latter seemed the favourite, and was the best killer, eight fish being landed with that fly. A few trout have been caught to day under Whitchiff. A gent tried all sorts of baits, top and bottom, in the Teme on Monday, and although considered an expert, he did not succeed in landing a single fish. To day the weather is nice and fine, a nice light breeze from the south rippling the water, the thermometer standing at 60 deg. in the shade. A fisherman visited the Clun waters on Saturday, and caught about 4 lb. of nice trout; on Monday, he tried the Ony from Bromfield to Wooton, but only caught two fish, which he returned to the river, being close time. To-day a gentleman, tempted by the weather, fished the Corve for about a mile above Captain Davis's at Elms Lodge. He was very lucky in landing nine trout in excellent condition in about three hours, with the claret body. The fish, he informed me, weighed altogether about 4 lb. The waters of the Leintwardine club remain quiet, the Tripleton district not having been disturbed of late. There has been no fishing in the Letwyche of late that I can hear of.—S. LUDLOW.

Teme (Tenbury).

There is now quite an alteration in the water this week, it now being high and coloured after the heavy rains of Monday and Tuesday, and fly-fishing will be put a stop to for a few days till the water gets clear again. Up to mid-day on Monday the fish were biting well at the blue dun and claret-bodied flies, but the rain coming on frightened all the fishermen from the river bank. On Friday some very good fish were landed in the water above the bridge with the fly, and on Saturday some very nice trout were taken with the blue dun in the down water. Near little Hereford on Saturday some very fine trout were taken with the fly, averaging ½ lb. each. On Monday morning some few trout were taken in the water with the claret body, but the rain coming he had to give up. The Kyre and Rea are both slightly coloured, and a few fish have been taken this week in the Kyre. The Ledwyche is a little muddy, but there has been but little in it yet. To-day there is every prospect of some more fine weather, as the sun is now shining, and every hopes of a fine week.—WORCESTER.

Torrige (Torrington).

Rivers in North Devon are in capital order for fly fishing. Trout have sported well, and hundreds have been taken during the last fortnight. Salmon fishing begins on the 1st of April, and the river was never better stocked with salmon than at present. Lots of salmon have been taken lately in the south of Devon, mostly with the improved Devon bait.—PRACTICAL ANGLER.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

River very high at present, and there has not been any salmon fishing so far. Lots of trout have been caught in the small brooks; I heard of one man taking fifty-four. The Rev. Mr. Montgomery, of Sutcombe, who breeds trout, brought Mr. Bastard, the fisherman at Torrington, over one thousand last week, and he put them into the Torrige. Weather mild, but showery.—PRACTICAL ANGLER.

Trent (Nottingham).

Information as regards salmon fishing is again of an encouraging and satisfactory character. In the Shardlow Waters alone, upwards of thirty large sized fish have been taken since the season set in. On Tuesday the weather was unfavourable, heavy showers falling at frequent intervals, but the subscribers at Weston and Shardlow would not be denied, and, amongst other fish killed, Mr. I. Jackson, of the latter village, had one of 15½ lb. In the previous week Mr. Jackson had a couple of nearly 20 lbs. apiece. The nets were used below the Mill ferry on Monday, but I learn that the only two fish ensnared made good their escape. It is a great pity the water is netted at all, seeing that the lessee lets tickets for rod and line. One very nice fish was caught on Tuesday and the angler (a local) succeeded in killing one on Saturday of 22½ lbs. On the same day Mr. Dickinson, of Nottingham, landed one of 14½ lbs., and three fell to the share of gentlemen from Derby. Monday's showers were followed by heavy rain on Tuesday, and when this report was despatched, on Wednesday night, the river was rising somewhat rapidly.—THE MAN AT THE CLUBS.

Tweed and Teviot.

Salmon angling on the Tweed since our last has not been productive of any great success, and although the takes of the various anglers may be considered fair, they have not come up to expectation. Both Tweed and Teviot have run in very small, and unless we have a rattling good flood soon, the angler's occupation will be gone for some time to come. The following are the takes reported to us since our last:—Saturday, March 19, Mr. J. R. Hay Gordon, on the Carham water, killed one salmon of 17½ lb. and one of 10 lb.; Mr. Greenhill, London, on the Sprouston water had one fish of 12 lb., and Mr. Mayor, London, on the same water had one of 9 lb., and a beautiful common river trout of 3½ lb. On the Ednam House upper water Dr. Mackenzie, Kelso, killed one salmon of 10 lb. Monday, March 24, Mr. Greenhill, on the Sprouston water had one fish of 16 lb. No fish were killed on any of the other casts. Tuesday, March 25: on the Sprouston water Mr. Charles Kean had a kipper of 16 lb., Mr. Drummond, Ednam House upper water, one fish, of 14 lb.; on the Carham water, Mr. Hay Gordon, two salmon, one of 9 lb., and the other of 16½ lb. Nothing done in trout. Tuesday, March 25: On the lower Ednam House water, Mr. Pringle Elliott killed one salmon, of 8 lb. Wednesday, March 26: On the Sprouston water, Major Nisbet, Halifax, got two fish, one of 10½ lb., and one of 11 lb. On the Hendersyde water, Mr. Greenhill, London one salmon, of 8 lb.; and on the Carham water, Mr. J. R. H. Gordon, Liverpool, had one, of 12½ lb. Thursday, March 27: On the Dub, at Sprouston, Mr. Crawhall, Newcastle, killed two fish, 11 lb. and 9 lb. respectively. Saturday, March 29: on the lower Hendersyde water, Mr. Thomas Johnston, Kelso, had a very handsome fish which turned the scale at 16 lb.; he also had a nice basket of trout, of 7 lb. weight. Mr. Hay Gordon on the Carham water, killed one salmon. Monday, March 31: On the Hendersyde water, Mr. H. Barclay, Norwich, got one fish, of 11½ lb. Tuesday, April 1: Waters very fine, and all the casts down the river fished blank. On the Floors upper waters, Mr. Cooper killed four nice fish ranging from 8 to 11 lb.—MAX WHEEL, Kelso.

Wharfe (Yorkshire).

The long wished for rain has come at last, but up to the present time (Wednesday) not sufficient to bring down a good flood, which is greatly needed. There is a little colour in the water to-night, but chiefly from the roads I fancy, which is not in favour of anglers; in fact, although several have been out to-day, their takes, so far as I can learn, have only been small. The wind has, I am glad to say, got into a warmer quarter, therefore angling prospects are decidedly better than they were last week.—FRANCIS M. WALBRAN.

Wye and Derwent.

Fine weather has prevailed the whole of the past week, but it has been bitterly cold, with sharp frosty nights, which has caused very few natural flies to be out on the rivers, consequently only small baskets have been the order of the day. Last Tuesday the 25th inst. was the opening day for trout, to be taken on the Darley Dale Club Waters, below Bowsley, and I am pleased to say that there have been several members out, who have killed nice little baskets of trout, the fish being in very good condition, the claret, bumble, and furnace flies being the killing flies. There have been several very nice trout killed by trolling, near Matlock Bath, both with the natural minnow, and the artificial Derby trout killer. The worm fishers have done next to nothing; weather very cold. I am very sorry to say that grayling in the Wye have got the fungus disease again badly.—GEORGE JAMES EATON.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

We have had a lot of rain fall since Tuesday, which has quite discoloured both rivers a little. To-day (Thursday) we have had a lot of thunder, but very little rain. This thundery weather has quite taken the trout out of the feed, both at the bottom and top, consequently only small catches have been the order of the day, although there have been a good many first-class fisherm en out, both on the Wye and Derwent. As soon as the weather is settled some sport ought to be had off both rivers. Weather very close and hot.—Geo. Jas. EATON.

THAMES RIGHTS.

WE are glad to see that Mr. J. G. Layard has challenged Mrs. Graham Smith's asserted right to the fishery at Maidenhead, and says: "If you intend seriously to litigate the question once more, and will be good enough to inform me of such intention, I will apprise you of the day and time when I will fish in the waters claimed by you to be private."

We think Thames anglers should support Mr. Layard.

PROGRESS IN FISH CULTURE.

THE *Century Magazine* for April contains a most interesting and valuable article on Progress in Fish Culture, by Mr. Fred. Mather, with twenty-three very fine illustrations. We shall refer to it more fully shortly; in the mean time, we advise our readers to procure this number of the *Century*.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

CAPTURE OF OTTERS.

At the Mere, near the village of Cockshott, in Shropshire, a litter of five young otters has been discovered. Such an occurrence was never known near any of the lakes in the Ellesmere district previously. Twenty-one years ago otters visited this place, but have not since been heard of. On Sunday, Mr. W. Purchase, of England's Gate Inn, keeper of the water of the Bodenham Fishing Club (Lugg), succeeded in capturing a very fine dog otter at Bodenham (Herefordshire). The otter measured more than 4 feet in length, and weighed 24 lb. This makes the sixth otter caught at Bodenham in a very short time; and every lover of angling must be gratified at the very successful result of Mr. Purchase's endeavours to rid the river of these destructive animals.—H. B.

[While we should be sorry to see them increase, we should still more regret to see the otter disappear entirely from our rivers. One of the first questions we ask on going to a new river is, "Are there any otters?" and we always feel sure of sport where these four-footed anglers exist. We are content to get our share with the otter, the kingfisher, the water-ouzel, and the heron—their presence adds life and interest to the scene, and is a never-failing indication that fish are there if you can only catch them.—ED.]

THE BANK OR SAND FLY.

I have been for many years in the habit of fishing, and that throughout England, with the bank or sand-fly. It scarcely matters what time of the season it may be, or the weather or character of the water, although my fly-book is well supplied, the sand fly is sure to have the preference. This may be faith; but it has invariably proved so successful, that I am personally warranted in the exercise of that virtue. I know not whether others are equally won. For trout, if I could sustain fatigue as I was wont, I would back its land-rail's wing and orange silk body against the hundred and one specimens which, with these flies on the collar, many fly fishers essay during their many efforts to please the trout. I seldom use more than one fly at a time, or two at the most, and in the latter case I do so, as you can better give to the drop fly the appearance of life; but you must be prepared for a very unworkmanlike entanglement if you get a fish on it.—ANON.

ALLEGED PRIVATE FISHERY ON THE THAMES AT MAIDENHEAD.

It would appear that as long ago as April, 1866, by the *Field*, that Mr. F. Lewis, of St. John's Wood, claimed the whole of the water between Maidenhead and Bray and half the water from Bray to Monkey Island. This declaration appears to have arisen from Mr. Greville Fennell raising a subscription to buy up one Allen, who said he rented the water and had threatened to net it severely. The whole of the correspondence is worth perusing; it is to be met with at page 346, Vol. xxvii.—CREEL.

SALMON GUT.

Some thirty years ago or more there could be found in the market a superior class of salmon gut, now said to be unprocureable from the total extinction of the silkworm that produced it. Since this time we have more than once been informed that a new breed of silkworm has been raised and encouraged in the South of France, introduced from Japan, which possesses all the features of the former fine and strong gut which from its absence, has caused the lament of many a veteran salmon fisher. Do any of your readers know of the existence of this desirable addition to our tackle case, and if so, where?—CREEL.

CONVICTION FOR ATTEMPTING TO GAFF SALMON IN THE USK.—At the Monmouthshire County Petty Sessions, held at Abergavenny, on Wednesday before T. P. Price, Esq., and a full bench of Magistrates, Isaac Jones was charged with unlawfully using a gaff in attempting to take Salmon in the river Usk at Abergavenny, on the 18th of January last. The case was clearly proved by James Davies, water bailiff to the Usk and Ebbw Board of Conservators, and the defendant was convicted in a penalty of £3 and costs. Defendant did not appear to the summons. Mr. Chas. R. Lyne, of Newport, conducted the prosecution on behalf of the Board of Conservators of the Usk and Ebbw.

A FIGHT WITH A 54-POUNDER.—Of the pleasures of wandering along the banks of a famous salmon river, and engaging in a contest with a 20 lb. fish, fresh from the sea, the late worthy Mr. Younger declared that "it beats the Grecian games all to nonsense." We once witnessed the discomfort of a dear old Doctor in Divinity, well known on the banks of the Tay for learning as well as piscatorial skill. He had hooked a heavy fish immediately above the Linn of Campsie. The fish, after dashing up and down with uncontrollable vigour, and repeatedly trying to shake itself rid of the hook by springing some 6 feet out of the water, at last made a rush at the linn. The contest was suddenly terminated by his floundering into deep water, which forced him to swim for his life. Still grasping the rod, he rose, puffing, to the surface; but prudence forbidding a swim in pursuit over the linn, he threw it from him, ran to a boat as fast as a man so water-logged could manage, and in it descended the roaring linn in quest of rod and fish. The rod was recovered minus the line and the salmon. Better luck had Duncan Grant, a shoemaker, in the Tweed. After a seven hours' fight with a huge fish, which at last took refuge, sulkily, under a stone, Duncan was so exhausted as to think of ending the struggle by breaking his tackle, when hoped revived as he put into practice this original expedient. Laying himself comfortably on the bank, with the line between his teeth, he proceeded to refresh himself with a nap, coolly saying to himself, "If he rugs when I'm sleepin', I think I'll find him noo." After a three hours' sleep, a furious tug awoke the invigorated cobbler. Starting to his legs, he followed the fish, which was now rushing down the stream with prodigious speed. Exactly twelve hours after hooking him, he "cleiked" out of the water a magnificent fifty-four pounder. What a trying moment is that when the "cleik" is about to secure the prey! Often have we seen unskilful hands miss the fatal blow, and in a second the noble fish was free, and Piscator speechless! On such an occasion it is well to remember Burton's saying, "If so be the angler catch no fish, yet has he a wholesome walk to the brook, and pleasant shade by the sweet silver stream," where, as Leigh Hunt has sung, the finny tribes lead

"A cold, sweet, silver life, wrapped in round waves,
Quickened with touches of transporting fear."

—From "The Life and History of a Salmon," by the Rev. David Esdaile.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

- T. K., Rochdale.—Much obliged for the cutting.
 "GIPPING."—The fish was a fine dace.
- T. M. LLOYD, Colchester.—Write to Mr. Jones, fishing-tackle maker, Scarborough; he keeps the very thing you want.
- J. HAY, Portman Place.—If you want good May-fly fishing, you cannot do better than fish the lakes near Mullingar. There is an inn on the Belvidere Lake, Castletown Station Road, where, according to the "Anglers' Diary," "fair accommodation and good boats can be had." You should take a good supply of artificial May-flies. The trout are large and very numerous. Write early to the landlord of the Belvidere Lake Inn, Mullingar. We have not fished there personally, but know many anglers who have enjoyed rare sport in these lakes. You should get a copy of the Midland Great Western Tourist Guide, published at Broadstone Station, Dublin.
- W. CLARKE, Loughborough.—A 7 lb. 3 oz. bream is certainly rather an exceptional but by no means very wonderful size.
- F. F.—Write to the Rev. J. S. Jellicoe, Dulverton, Somerset; he takes great interest in the fishing. Or to Mr. Bevan, Lyndale Hotel, Lynmouth, N. Devon.
- S. SILLS.—The white fish which the Marquis of Lorne has received from Canada are a species of *Coregonus* similar to the Gwyniad and Powan of Great Britain and Ireland. We shall have a description of the Gwyniad in type shortly in answer to another correspondent who sends us a Gwyniad (Welsh, meaning white fish) from Bala Lake, N. Wales.
- C. WOOD, Huddersfield.—We hope the National Fish Culture Association will shortly be able to supply ova and fry of coarse fish. We send you a prospectus.
- J. E. B. can have an oleograph of salmon, trout, and perch, after Rolfe, by sending 3s. 6d. in stamps to Manager, FISHING GAZETTE, 12, Fetter Lane. Except the trout picture which J. E. B. says he has, we only know of the chromos advertised in our pages by Messrs. S. Allcock and Co., Standard Works, Redditch.
- H. R., Chelsea.—We fear you will not be able to get much trout-fishing near Canterbury, as the Stour is preserved by an association, and the members are limited to six tickets for friends. Write for particulars to the hon. sec. of the Stour Fishery Association, Canterbury.
- W. HEARN, Newington Butts.—2½ or 3 inches diameter is the size of winch we prefer (the former for trout with fly line). You can get the fly line at the same maker's.
- W. STAUNTON, Fulham.—There is no book on bream fishing only. The "Trent Otter" refers to bream fishing in his "Float-fishing and Spinning," sold by him at his address, J. W. Martin, 4, Northern Buildings, Lover's Lane, Newark. Messrs. Hardy Bros., of Fenkle Street, Alnwick, sell a creel such as you want called the "Carry All."
- P. ROBINS.—You must belong to a club to get the privilege. You might possibly get permission of one or two of the millers; but most of the best fishing is preserved strictly.
- EBORACUM.—You must get permission from the Fishery Board before destroying coarse fish in an English or Welsh salmon stream during the fence months.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

[We have to hold over for next week an important letter from Mr. Geo. M. Kelson, with reference to striking off the winch in salmon fishing, and several other letters.—Ed.]

THAMES TROUTING.

SIR,—I shall be greatly obliged if any of your many readers will kindly inform me if the fishing is free at the following places (especially at the Weir) viz.:—Kingston, Hampton Court, Shepperton, Chertsey, Sunbury, Mousley, Staines, &c., and Windsor. If not, I shall be very glad to receive information concerning terms of subscription, &c.—I am, &c.,

TROUT.

[We asked Mr. Brougham to answer this, and he kindly sends the following.—Ed.]

"The fishing is perfectly free at the places mentioned; but to fish from the Weirs, which are the property of the Thames Conservators, it is necessary to write for permission to their secretary, Capt. Burstal, 41, Trinity Square, Tower Hill. The subscription to the Thames Angling Preservation Society is one guinea, and the object of the society is to protect, preserve, and increase the stock of fish in the river. The offices are at 7, Ironmonger Lane, Cheapside.

"W. H. BROUGHAM, sec. T. A. P. S."

I. C. U. AND THE OLD RIVER.

SIR,—In a recent edition of your valuable paper, "I. C. U." exclaims: "Surely every frequenter of the Old River must know a certain old punt." Since I have lived at Datchet, just 18 months, I have gone once or twice a week down the Fleet, and I have not seen this old punt he complains of, nor have I any reason to suppose it is poached in the manner one or two correspondents would have us believe. I have left my punt there from Monday evening to Sunday morning often, and always found things as I left them, which would not be the case if there was such a rough gang about as represented. I don't doubt for a moment that, in days gone by the piece of water in question has been netted the same as the rest of the Thames; but it's satisfaction to think poaching days are over. The Windsor and Eton Preservation Society has asked me if I would be bailiff. Now, that's just what every fisherman ought to be, for their own interest and their customers'.—I am, &c.,

GEORGE LUMSDEN.

CATECHISING "I. C. U."

SIR,—It is rather hard that a study of the FISHING GAZETTE should have a tendency to corrupt one's Scriptural knowledge. The twenty-second of the I. Samuel runs: "David therefore departed thence, and escaped to the cave Adullam. . . And everyone that was in distress, and everyone that was in debt, and everyone that was discontented, gathered themselves unto him,"

"I. C. U." says "went to David in his place of retreat"; but your contributor may not have had a Bible handy.—I am, &c.,

Sewardstone.

FREDERICK JOHNSON.

[Mr. Frederick Johnson's Scriptural knowledge will not suffer if he sticks as near to the spirit of the text as does "I. C. U."—Ed.]

SOLES OF WADING BOOTS.

SIR,—Some little time since, in reply to a query of mine as to whether there was danger of slipping on rocks when wading with indiarubber boots, you said that you found it desirable to cover the soles with felt. I don't find the boots sold with felt under the soles, and should be obliged if you would say what you consider is the best way of fastening the felt on, and also what sort of felt to use?

Mr. Cu-cliffe, in his most useful little book on "Trout Fishing in Rapid Streams," strongly advises the free use of good-sized nails in the soles of the rubber boots. It seemed to me, however, that the use of such nails would soon end in the boots leaking; and the vendors of the North British rubber boots in Manchester confirmed this opinion when I consulted them.

Doubtless, by giving the benefit of your experience on these points, you would oblige many other anglers besides—Yours, &c.,

RUS IN URBE.

[A Yorkshire friend, our correspondent "Watchet," adopts the following plan: he has nails put into a rather thin gutta-percha sole, and the ends of the nails which protrude through the sole flattened down (easily done by hammering on an iron weight). This sole, armed with nails, is fastened with gutta-percha to the sole of the wading boot. At any gutta-percha shop you can get a stick of the stuff for sticking the soles together. The points of the nails being bent and flattened down, they hold well in the lower sole, and cannot injure the upper one by penetrating it, as they would if left protruding. We should think a felt sole might be fastened on with the gutta-percha solution easily enough. We cannot speak from experience of felt soles, but have always understood they last fairly well, and afford good foothold. We have used a pair of North British rubber waders for some seasons now, and without nails in the soles, but have had a ducking three or four times as a consequence of stepping on a slippery rock.—Ed.]

SEA-TROUT FISHING AT LERWICK, SHETLAND.

SIR,—The sea-trout fishing is particularly good this year. A few days ago I got 17 sea-trout, averaging ½ lb., in three hours with flies made by Mr. Brown, of Aberdeen, and given me by Lieut. Evans, who landed a 7 lb. trout with one of the flies on a fine casting line.—I am, &c.,

F. DASHAE, M.D.

ENAMELLED RUST-PROOF HOOKS.

SIR,—Anyone not being in possession of the whole of the facts, from reading the letter of Messrs. Allcock and Co., and from recent advertisements in your columns, would be led to the conclusion that except Mr. Court, no one has made, makes, or has the right to make what they have been pleased to call the "Patent enamelled rust-proof hooks." In self-defence we have been compelled to enter some thing very much stronger than protest against this kind of competition. Messrs. Allcock and Co., in the letter under notice, disclaim the word "patent" in connection with these hooks, and very wisely so. We have employed what is termed the process of rust-proof enamelling in our trade for years, long before Mr. Court commenced the business which he has just sold to Messrs. Allcock and Co. The assumption and use of such words as "patent" when no patent exists, and "sole makers" when it is not true, simply place other manufacturers who possess equal rights, and possibly prior claim, before the public as pirates and dishonest traders.

Messrs. Allcock and Co. would not knowingly or intentionally connect themselves with this kind of trading, we know, but as Mr. Chamberlain's new patent laws deal with this question, and it is not generally known, a little ventilation on the subject will do no harm.—We are, &c.,

W. GUISE AND SONS.

Redditch, March 31st.

LIVE BAIT IN FENCE SEASON.

SIR,—I chance to be in want of a few minnows as live bait for trout, and I wrote to some of the firms advertising in the FISHING GAZETTE, but had a reply in each case, "None in stock, as it is fence season."

Will you or some reader, kindly inform me if I am wrong in supposing it legal to sell them; and, if not, where they may be obtained?—I am, &c.,

Ewell, Surrey.

W. J. P.

[There is a clause in the Freshwater Fisheries Act which provides for the taking of fish for bait, and there is no earthly reason why minnows should not be so'd now for bait. Thanks; should be glad to have a short account.—Ed.]

FISHING NEAR SALISBURY.

SIR,—As the trout season is now upon us, it may be of service to some at least of your readers to know of some really good trout fishing.

There is a good deal said in your paper from time to time of many good places, but I have not myself noticed much (if anything) said about the waters about Salisbury, Wilts, which I believe to be the best in England for trout, grayling, and pike, not only for numbers but also for size. I have myself fished these waters and have killed trout up to 6 lb., grayling 3 lb., and pike 24 lb.; trout 2 lb., and grayling 1 to 1½ lb., are very common. There are also very fine roach, dace, and gudgeon, &c., in these waters. There is a comfortable little hotel on one of the best stretches—the Avon Brewery Hotel, Harnham, and I am sure the proprietor, Mr. T. Nash, being a true fisherman, with much spirit, will be glad to give all needful information; and any true angler will find not only this hotel, but the waters which run through its grounds and neighbourhood, the most charming at which to spend a few days or weeks. I may say these waters are most suitable for fly fishing.—I am, &c.,

AVON TROUT.

P.S.—I do not now remember whether Harnham or Arnham is correct. Mr. Nash should be addressed—Mr. F. Nash, Avon Brewery Hotel, Harnham, Salisbury, Wilts. I would, if you wish it, give your readers a little of my experience on these and other waters.—A. T.

[Thanks; should be glad to have the notes, and hear of any other places where trout fishing can be had.—Ed.]

BOOK ON NETTING AND NET MAKING.

SIR,—Vol. I., "Field Library," published by Horace Cox, "Facts Relating to Fishing and Shooting," will give Mr. J. Alfred Kelly all the information he desires.—I am, &c.,

H. A. H.

THE PRIVILEGE TICKETS.

SIR,—Everyone will agree that to lose these concessions would be a great blow to anglers, especially on the South-Western Railway. I throw out a suggestion—I am very sorry to have to make it, as it would be rather a tax on the poor angler—that is, that everyone wishing for a privilege ticket should be compelled to leave one sovereign in hand as a caution money, to be retained by the association as long as he is a member, and forfeited in case of misbehaviour, such as misuse of cards, &c., such forfeiture to be accompanied with loss of privilege tickets and expulsion from the association, and to be without prejudice to the association or railway companies taking any other legal proceedings they might deem necessary.—I am, &c.,

A. J. MARRIOTT.

BOOKS ON NET AND NET-MAKING.

SIR,—If Mr. J. Alfred Kelly will visit the library of the British Museum reading room he will find in the catalogue, "The Hon. and Rev. Charles Bathurst's Notes on Nets, or Queries Practically Considered, to which are added miscellaneous memoranda. 12mo. London: Van Voorst. 1837." The late Mr. Frank Buckland had on the shelves of his studio, in Albany Street, a German work of three vols. quarto on this subject; but I have forgotten its name, nor do I know where it is at present. It was bought of a second-hand bookseller in Princess Street, Leicester Square. Nets are, however, now made by machinery, which accomplish from one thousand to fifteen hundred meshes in a minute, and can be sold at a price of but a comparatively small increase on the value of the weight of twine.—I am, &c.,

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The Cheap Friday to Tuesday Tickets will be issued on Thursday, April 10, and be available for return up to and including Tuesday, April 15.

Cheap Day Excursion Tickets will be issued as under:

Broxbourne and Rye House, on Good Friday and Easter Monday, by all trains, from Liverpool Street, Bishopsgate, Bethnal Green, Cambridge Heath, London Fields, Hackney Downs, Clapton, Coborn Road, Stratford, Tottenham, and Park. A Special Train will leave Liverpool Street at 10 a.m. on Good Friday, and at 9.20 a.m. on Easter Monday.

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To Walton-on-the-Naze, Clacton-on-Sea, Dovercourt and Harwich on Easter Monday, by Special Train leaving Liverpool Street at 8 a.m., calling at Stratford.

For full particulars see small bills.

WILLIAM BIRT,

London, April, 1884.

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* Not on Saturday nights from London.

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On THURSDAY, APRIL 10th, an ADDITIONAL TRAIN (1st, 2nd, and 3rd Class), will leave Euston Station at 1.0 p.m. for WILLESDEN, Harrow, Watford, King's Langley, Boxmoor, Berkhamstead, and Tring.

On GOOD FRIDAY the 5.15 a.m. NEWS-PAPER EXPRESS TRAIN from LONDON (EUSTON STATION), will run to NORTHAMPTON, BIRMINGHAM, SHREWSBURY, LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER, WARRINGTON, WIGAN, PRESTON, LANCASTER, WINDERMERE, CARLISLE, EDINBURGH, and GLASGOW, but will have no connection to Chester.

The 9.0 a.m. from Birmingham to Chester will not convey Passengers beyond Crewe; the 11.10 a.m., Crewe to Holyhead, and the 12.0 noon Train, Holyhead to Crewe, will not run.

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For further particulars see Special Notices issued by the Company.

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G. FINDLAY, General Manager.

Euston Station, April, 1884.

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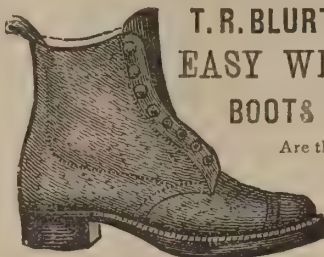
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Contributions are solicited, but the Editor will not undertake to return rejected MSS. unless accompanied with a stamped addressed envelope.

Correspondents are requested to write on one side of the paper only, and give their real names and addresses, not necessarily as signatures to their letters, but as a guarantee of good faith. Unless this rule be adhered to, no notice will be taken of such communications.

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The Fishing Gazette.

SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 1884.

SALMON-FISHING IN SCOTLAND.

BY R. B. MARSTON.

"I AM going to Scotland, for some salmon-fishing, with a friend; will you join us?" said Mr. Geo. M. Kelson to me, at the Piscatorial Society's dinner. "Barkis is willin'," I replied.

Leaving Euston by the limited mail, the "Shooting Star" carried us swiftly and easily to the North. When I say "us," I mean the occupants of the crowded mail train, for my friends had gone North a day or two previously. The anticipation of a fishing holiday to one who for half the year hardly sees daylight, except through London's fog and smoke, is very pleasant—how pleasant only those who have experienced it can imagine—and I thought of those lines in Izaak Walton's "Angler's Wish"—

"Thus free from law-suits, and the noise
Of Echo boys, I would rejoice."

Did the dear old contemplative gentleman have his legal worries? It was, at any rate, consoling to think so. With the exception of delay caused by the breakdown of one of the carriages, our journey was as uneventful as are most railway journeys in these days. I did not know quite what to make of my fellow-traveller at first: we had scarcely started before he opened a parcel as big as a hat-box, and proceeded to dispose of its contents in a manner truly astonishing. Pork chops, sausage rolls, sandwiches, disappeared one after another. "Ha! I feel better now; 'ad a nawful bustlin' day; governor made up his mind all of a sudden to go to Scotland; packed seventeen trunks to-day; told our cook to put me up something." I felt inclined to ask him if she imagined he was going to the North Pole. He subsequently gave me the history of his private affairs and his master's also. And, as they were "always travelling about," he had naturally seen a good deal, and proved an interesting companion. If his master is as well satisfied with him as he is with himself, he is certainly well suited. Given, as in this case, a generous, easy-going "governor," I should say that the position of valet must be anything but an unpleasant one. Doing the Continent, yachting, shooting, and salmon-fishing, Brighton in the season—these seemed to form the chief "state of life" to which he was called; packing trunks, looking after dogs, uncorking champagne, &c., were merely details. Previous to the "provisioning" episode, he had casually informed me he was going fishing, and I concluded he meant on his "own hook"; then, when he recommended a particular brand of champagne, of which he had ordered sixteen dozen to be sent on to "our shooting box," I mentally put him down as the very "deuce of a swell," as indeed he was. But he has put his slippers on, made himself comfortable, and evidently turned in for the night, so I will leave him to his dreams.

"Perth" at last, or, as the natives call it, "Pairth."

As the most likely place at which to get news of my friends, I order the fly-man to drive to Mr. Malloch's; and, as luck has it, I find Mr. Kelson and his friend, Mr. Thomas, having a chat with Mr. M., in his shop. "Not much fishing doing," I think to

myself, as I reciprocate their hearty greeting. "Fishing! devil a chance; river miles too high; sent you a telegram this morning not to come; jolly glad you have, all the same," in K.'s cheery style. "Oh! but you'll get a fish to-morrow, at Stanley," says Mr. Malloch, who is tying a Jock Scott. "I wouldn't mind betting any money you get a fish or two to-morrow." We found, by experience, that whenever Mr. M. was ready to bet "any money" (pronounced slowly and with emphasis), he was generally right.

As there was no fishing to be done, Mr. Kelson decided to utilise the remainder of the day in paying a visit to some friends at Dundee. Mr. Thomas and I had been strangers hitherto, and doubtless each had wondered what sort of a fellow the other would be to get on with. I think the success of an angling excursion depends a deal more on the good fellowship of your companions than on the weather or the state of the water, and if Mr. T. found me half such a pleasant companion during the week we were together as I found him I shall be well satisfied. As for Kelson—well, we both knew him before, and to be a friend of K.'s is quite enough introduction for anybody. I knew I had seen T. previously, and told him so, as we walked down to our hotel to get some lunch. "Yes, I saw you at the last FISHING GAZETTE tournament—was never more mistaken in my life—expected to see a middle-aged, sedate-looking old angler, instead of which I should suppose you are—well, this side thirty?" I mentally put friend T.'s picture of my "sedate" middle-agedness down to the sonorous editorial "we," which evidently covers a multitude of shortcomings besides those of age. "Never mind; my friend; we have eaten salt together, and drank good whisky, and what is more, I have waded nearly to the tops in your wading stockings, and I only hope we may have many more angling days together—though they were three sizes too big for me—round the waist!"

After lunch T. and I had a stroll on the beautiful North Inch—a stretch of green sward bordered by the river and the railway, and on which several Perthites were amusing themselves—some playing the national game of golf, others trout fishing. The Tay for two miles above, and all the way to the sea below, Perth, is free to everyone, both for salmon or trout, and as no license for salmon fishing is required in Scotland the poorest anglers have a chance, and a very good one, too, of getting fish. Soon after we got back to our hotel Mr. Kelson joined us again. Our host, Mr. Hall, of the Victoria, is an enthusiastic sportsman both with rod and gun, and he often came in of an evening to have a chat and smoke, so did Mr. Malloch, and very jolly evenings we had—two Englishmen, two Scotchmen, and a Welshman to keep us sober; not, of course, that there was much danger in that direction, but T. would insist upon seeing us all to bed, and then awaking us at unearthly hours in the morning.

Friday, March 21.—Having arranged the previous night to fish Mr. Hall's water at Stanley, we took the 9.20 train from Perth for that place, following the right bank of the river, crossing two pretty little trout streams, and getting a view of Scone Palace on the opposite side of the river. The palace is now the seat of the Earl of Mansfield, who represents the old family of Stormont. At Stanley we found our boatmen waiting for us, and ten minutes' walk brought us to the river. And what a grand river it is. At any time the volume of water it carries to the sea is more than does the Thames, and now that its banks are full to the brim it looks majestic in its depth and strength. "She is right in colour; but three feet too high for most of the catches,"—such is Jamie, our head boatman's, verdict. As we cross over in our boat to fish down the other side we watch the netsmen pulling their net ashore. "Any luck this morning?" "Not a fish." While putting our rods together we arrange that T. and I shall try from the bank just below, while K. goes on down to a catch above "Hell's Hole," a celebrated turn in the river caused by a precipitous rock at the end of a series of streams. "Now, look here, boatman," says K., "if I get hold of a fish at the corner where shall I kill him?" "Ye'll just kill him there if ye kill him at all," is the reply, in a tone which implies small hope of K.'s success. "Yes, but if he makes down stream, what chance is there then? Can I follow him?" "Ye just might follow him into Hell's Hole, but if ye do I fear ye'll nae come back again," is the comforting reply. "Well, I mustn't let him go, that's all," and the very difficulty of the place makes K. all the more eager to try the experiment. Off he goes, looking the beau-ideal of a salmon angler in his patent wading trousers, patent jacket, and patent gaff swinging at his side. T. and I are soon hard at work fishing a long stream which works down all this side at this height of water. I was using an 18 foot by Hains, of Cork, and a "Black Dog." T. swung a superb new rod made from Kelson's pattern by Mr. Malloch, and T.'s favourite fly, the "Jock Scott." I was so enchanted with T.'s rod that I got one exactly like it. These rods are made of greenheart so straight in the grain that it is split and not sawn from the block. Everyone who handled these two rods—and some first-rate salmon anglers did so—pronounced

them perfection. Mr. Malloch himself, one of the best anglers in Scotland—has taken no end of prizes at competitions—is so delighted with Mr. Kelson's pattern that he has made one for his own use. Finding that fishing from the bank was of no use, we somewhat reluctantly decided to try from the boat, and Jamie and his man rowed us while we fished from the stern. As most of the fishing in the Tay is done from a boat, a short description of the *modus operandi* may be useful. The boat, which is roomy and strongly built with broad, flat stern, is pulled by two men with double sculls (Scotchmen are proverbially hard-headed), and the anglers sit together facing the stern, either holding their rods with from twenty-five to thirty or more yards of line out trailing behind, or else, as is more usual, simply watching for a rise and ready to snatch up the rod. In this case the end of the butt goes into a socket under the angler's seat, and the rod projects over the stern on which it rests in a notch made for the purpose. It is customary to use three rods, the centre one projecting straight over the middle of the stern, and those on each side at acute angles to keep the lines as far apart as possible. The boatmen row slowly from one side of the "catch" to the other, at each turn dropping a few feet down stream. The motion of the boat works the flies quite enough, and in this way every yard of water is covered. T. and I preferred to hold our rods and strike the fish instead of letting the fish hook itself; but we both considered it a lazy style of fishing, especially when the fish are not rising, as is the case to-day. Not a touch did we get, and being limited by the state of the water to one pool, we could only work it over and over again. Occasionally a salmon would encourage us by taking a lazy lunge out of the water and flop back again—a bad augury for sport; a quiet "bell-up," as Colquhoun calls it, is more like business.

We fished on patiently till lunch time, tried various flies, but in vain. "I think we may as well give it a rest for awhile," says Jamie, as he offers us a pinch of snuff; "the best to be got in Pairth," he says, and certainly if strength is a cardinal virtue in snuff, Jamie's was genuine, for a few grains of it nearly blew our heads off. T. and I were somewhat amused at Jamie's method of charging his nasal organ, which he did, not in the orthodox fashion, but by means of a little bone shovel!—an invention of his own of which he was not a little proud. "Weel, Duncan," said T. (he would persist in calling Jamie Duncan or Donald), "I see you are a real canny, careful Scot." "Yes," says Jamie, laughing, "I see no use in wasting onything, and there's a deal o' snuff wasted by pinches."

"Suppose we walk down, and see what Kelson has done," I suggest. "Why, there he is, coming back, and without his rod. What's wrong, I wonder—want's his lunch, I suppose." "Well, what have you done?" says K. "Nothing. What have you done. Made acquaintance with Hell's Hole?" "Precious near it, I can assure you: hooked a clean fish, nearly killed him, was wading ashore to gaff him, slipped over a big stone, smashed my rod in two, nearly broke my thigh, and lost the fish—no end of a caper I can tell you. You may well call it Hell's Hole. I was never in such a devil of a place in my life. Hand me out my spare second joint." K. takes his mishap very philosophically, and after lunch gives us a lesson in the "switch," the "flip," &c. Then he has a try from the boat, casting, and has hardly made a dozen casts before he is into a good fish, which he plays in a way T. and I do not understand. Instead of keeping up in the quiet water, he makes the men drop down stream and then crosses at the head of a rapid. "Now, then, one of you catch hold" We are neither of us particularly anxious for the honour of playing another man's fish, but to oblige K. and keep myself warm I take the rod. Of course, by this time the fish was just where K. wanted it to be—in a stream a quarter of a mile long, and going like a mill race. "Hold him—let him go—mind those rocks—keep your rod up," shouts K., all in one breath. The weight of the stream and the struggles of the fish bend the rod like a bow; every instant I think the single gut cast will break, or my recently-sprained knee give way. On he goes, and I have to follow over a hundred yards of honeycombed, gorse-covered bank. Thank goodness! there is a bit of slack water at last, into which I guide the fish and K. jumps in and gaffs him—a fine, well-mended kelt of 16 lb. or so, hooked in the pectoral fin. K. knew it was a kelt from the first, and admitted he had intentionally played it into the stream in order to give one of us a dance. This was the sum total of our sport to-day.

Saturday, the next day, as I was anxious to see the Stormontfield fish-breeding ponds, Mr. Malloch arranged that I should fish on Sir Wm. Elliott's water while T. and K. went on to fish the Cargill water—a station beyond Stanley, where I left my friends. Sir Wm. Elliott's water is some distance below Hell's Hole, and I found my boatmen, Haggart and his assistant, ready for me, and excellent boatmen they are. The river is still far too high for the best pools, and Lord Stormont, who fished yesterday where I am to fish to-day, did nothing, Haggart tells me. This looks bad; but

hope "springs eternal" in the angler's breast. After a preliminary cast from the bank we took to the boat, and fished down to a pool called—from the slaughter of salmon which has taken place there—Ulundi. Here I rose a fish which would not come again. The pool below, called, I think, the "Black Rock" pool, was our best chance, Haggart said, and truly it looked a most likely spot. Two clean fish show themselves, and then, as I am working my "black dog" gently between the current and the slack water at the side, I rise and hook a fine fish, and after ten minutes' good fight he begins to tire, and we pull ashore; the gaff is ready, the fish shows his clean silvery sides as he turns over and over from exhaustion; he is within a yard or two of the gaff, a few more seconds will decide the matter, when the hook comes away, and the fish slowly rolls over, and is carried out into the stream. Haggart said it was a clean fish undoubtedly, and a good eighteen-pounder at least. "Better luck next time," and so it proved; for at the end of Black Rock Pool, just where it breaks into a long stream below, I hooked a very lively fish, which, after playing about in the pool some time, suddenly rushed off down stream, and we had to follow in the boat, the winch humming like a buzz saw all the time. On a beautiful grassy bank a hundred yards below I got him at last after a splendid fight—a handsome clean fish, with sea lice still on it, of 11 lb.

As we were now close to the

STORMONTFIELD FISH-BREEDING PONDS,

Haggart took me to see them. These ponds were made in 1853 for the purpose of hatching salmon ova, and rearing fry for improving the Tay salmon fisheries. Since their establishment fish breeding has made immense strides, and Stormontfield is far behind the age. It is not too much to say that in the same space and with the same amount of water for every hundred eggs hatched here a thousand could be hatched by the tray or grille system. The ponds are simply square depressions in the ground, filled with rows of wooden troughs, with a stream of water running through each. The troughs are half-filled with big stones, and the ova is deposited among these, and at the mercy of aquatic insects, waterfowls, and slime. We turned over a good many stones carefully, and saw one or two peas; but if the stock of salmon in the Tay is to be materially increased by artificial means, it must be by some far more practical system than this, which produces only a few hundred thousand fry. If the proprietors of salmon fisheries on the Tay wish to improve their property by artificial breeding they should get Sir James Maitland to put up a proper hatchery, and turn in fry by the million every year—nothing but their own action, or, rather, inaction, prevents this being done.

We had considerable difficulty in getting our boat back to Black Rock Pool, the stream was so strong. I get some good sport out of a big kelt or two, and then we start for the station. On the way Haggart showed me the field from which, he said, the Scots took their national emblem, the thistle, after a victory over the Danes here. I noticed there were plenty of thistles still left. K. and T. got home soon after I did. They had not touched a clean fish, but nine kelts gave them plenty of employment, especially one which T. hooked foul. As far as sport goes, a well-mended kelt will often give as much or more play than a clean-run fish, and it is often not until close to the gaff that you know whether you have been playing a "fish" or a kelt.

(To be continued.)

PUBLIC ANGLING RIGHTS ON THE THAMES.

WE have much pleasure in stating that Mr. J. P. Wheeldon, a very well-known authority upon matters connected with angling, has been appointed by Mr. Birkett, acting for Mr. Story-Maskelyne's Committee, to collect evidence upon the Thames in support of public rights sought to be established by the Bill. Considering the advantage of Mr. Wheeldon's long experience, we think a better choice could hardly have been made.

ILLEGAL FISH-TAKING NEAR BIRMINGHAM.—At the Coleshill petty sessions on the 26th ult., George Smith, of Birmingham, fitter, and Stephen Jones, of Aston, electroplater, were brought up in custody, charged by Thomas Redden, gamekeeper on the Digby estate, with catching fresh-water fish during close time, at Coleshill, on the 25th March. Both prisoners pleaded guilty of catching a few minnows for bait only, and that the chub produced by Redden had been taken by permission on Lord Bradford's estate. Work was scarce, and they caught a few fish to sell at the stores. They were coming along the road, and not on trespass at all, and took the minnows at the bridge, near Coleshill Hall, on the Birmingham turnpike road, from a hollow by a stone. They were not aware it was close season. The Bench said ignorance of the law was held to be no excuse; but they might tell them they could not take fish in fresh water from 15th March to 15th June. They would be fined 10s., including costs, each.

PISCATORIAL SCRAPS.

By I. C. U.

THE Portsmouth Waltonian Angling Society's annual dinner.—I don't know of any greater pleasure for a hard-worked Londoner than the privilege of taking an express train on a fine April morning, and being carried through some seventy miles of ever-varying and beautiful scenery; and then, at the end of his pleasant and invigorating trip, to be met by men who, like himself, are enthusiasts on the subject of angling. Now, if it is possible to add to such a pleasure, the men so meeting should be old friends, and the occasion of their meeting an anglers' dinner. All these pleasures were mine on the 3rd inst., when a friend and I visited Portsmouth, and enjoyed the hospitality of the Portsmouth Waltonians.

Were I merely to say that the dinner was a good one, the company numerous, the songs first class, the speeches short and pithy, and that it was in every respect a successful and enjoyable evening, I should fail in conveying to my readers a something more, which I always look out for on such occasions, often in vain, but which was readily discovered on this occasion.

The previous paragraph is undoubtedly a little vague, so I will illustrate what I mean by "a something more." At a Gresham dinner, Mr. — spoke as follows:—"What an untold blessing it would be if the aristocracy, or rather, the landed proprietors, of this country would only recognise and avail themselves of the grand opportunities at their disposal of giving innocent amusement to their poorer fellow-men. The much favoured few who own the largest portion of England have on their properties rivers, lakes, and ponds which are capable, under proper supervision, of giving exquisite pleasure and enjoyment to tens of thousands, and in most instances this could be done without loss or injury to the giver, who would have that best of all rewards, the pleasure of doing good to others."

The "a something more" at Portsmouth—Major General Sir Frederick Fitz Wygram, Bart., who is an honorary member of the society, and was present at the dinner, said during the speech with which he proposed success to the society: "I look upon sport and out-door games, whether it be cricket, football, the gentle craft of angling, or the wilder excitement of the chase, as the truest antidotes to that great curse of the nineteenth century, over-brain-pressure. I know that it may be said that there were great men who had not been sportsmen; but I hold they would have been greater men still had they added more vigour of body to their great brain power. You all know how pleased I am to see you fishing at Leigh Park, and with a view to increasing your sport I have had the upper lake cleaned out and Mr. Andrews, of Guildford, has advised me to stock it with yearling lake trout; this will be done, and the lower lake kept for coarse fish. Have what we may in this world, we are sure to wish for something else: I am wishing that I had a trout stream somewhere near, which I could offer you; but as we have not got one, we must do the best we can with the two lakes."

It has been suggested that the angling societies within the boroughs of Finsbury and Hackney should express their pleasure and satisfaction on learning that their members, Sir Andrew Lusk and Mr. John Holms, have been selected to serve on the committee of the House of Commons to inquire into the operation of the Acts of Parliament for the Preservation of the Thames, and the steps necessary to secure the enjoyment of the river as a place of recreation. Should this course be determined on, considerable delicacy and care would have to be displayed in drafting any address which may be sent these two gentlemen, as nothing should be said that could be supposed to convey anything beyond the satisfaction and pleasure which are no doubt very widely felt in both constituencies.

A splendid specimen of Colne trout, weighing 8 lb., was taken from the Wraysbury Mill water on Saturday last. I have no information as to who the fortunate captor is; but I wish him luck sufficient to get its fellow, or the still bigger one which is known to frequent this spot. I noticed some time since that our correspondent "Roach" called attention to these big fish which were waiting to be caught, and I had determined to have been amongst the first to try for them; but here I am scribbling away, without having yet put my trout rod together.

Many clever articles have recently been written having the otter for their subject, and I was particularly interested in one which appeared in the *Stockkeeper* of March 21st, headed "A Plea for the Otter." I am sorry I have not space to quote from it; but I hope by thus calling attention to the subject, to induce some

of those gentlemen who are interested in fish preservation to read the article. I feel sure the result will be a reconsideration of the subject as to whether it is desirable or not to offer a guinea reward for the capture of each of the few remaining specimens of this the rarest and largest of our indigenous wild animals. We have proof that they prey upon aquatic birds, which in turn prey upon the spawn of fish, more especially summer-spawning fish, and to determine to kill them all off from such rivers as the Thames is in my mind a doubtful policy.

Considerable excitement has been manifested in many quarters in consequence of "I. C. U.'s" announcement that no less than three railways had determined to withdraw these concessions. Gentlemen, more full of anxiety than discretion, have rushed off to the booking clerks, and finding that anglers' cheap tickets are still procurable, have jumped to the conclusion that there is no foundation for my statement. While there is some satisfaction in being able to report that the Midland and Great Northern have deferred the subject for further consideration, it is with a deep sense of pain and regret that I make public the facts contained in the following telegram to our Editor, in answer to one of his asking if it was true they intended to withdraw the privileges:—

"From Neele, "To Editor, FISHING GAZETTE,
London and North-Western Railway, 188, Fleet Street,
Euston, E.C.

"Your telegram to our secretary.—Yes; and I understand Lancashire and Yorkshire and Great Western have agreed to withdraw also."

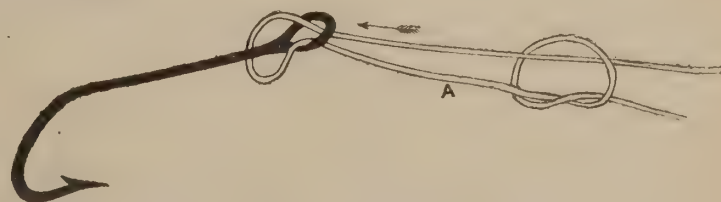
We have plenty of proof now that the anglers of London are not alone in their anxiety to do something which shall lead to a more careful guarding of the railway privileges. Unfortunately, this newly-awakened zeal comes too late to prevent, and I very much fear too late to alter, the determination which has been arrived at by some of the companies. I have said so much as to the causes and certainty of their withdrawal, that it is with a feeling of relief that I give the opinions of others who are recognised authorities, which will bear out to the letter my contentions on the subject.

Mr. Levi Booth, president of the Wigan and District Amalgamated Association, writes: "I am sorry to see in the FISHING GAZETTE that the London anglers' concessions are in danger; but worse than this is the fact that the London and North-Western, and also the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Companies, have withdrawn the privilege altogether from this district. Some more stringent measures will have to be adopted to prevent the abuse of these privileges, or anglers' tickets will soon be a thing of the past. I for one am of opinion that one association only should be allowed to manage in each town or district. We have three associations. Abuses have crept in, and now we see the result."

I. C. U.

MR. HALL'S METHOD OF FASTENING HIS EYED HOOKS TO GUT.

SO many correspondents have asked us to republish the illustration of the above that we have had another block engraved, and give it below with the description published by us two years ago. If the gut is simply passed through the eye, and knotted without being first made to embrace the shank, the hook will hang limply and loosely. By Mr. Hall's plan the hook stands out straight from the end of the gut. Messrs. Hutchinson, of Kendal, make these hooks specially from Mr. Hall's designs, and have taken the greatest pains to get them correct, and they may be said to be perfect in shape and temper. The illustration is drawn on a large scale in order to show details more plainly; the smallest midge flies are dressed on these hooks.



Method of fastening Hall's eyed hook to the gut.

DIRECTIONS.

Take the hook between finger and thumb of the left hand, and push the gut through the eye (as shown by the arrow); take a turn round the shank, and back again through the eye. The end A, which should be not less than $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch long, is then tied in a single knot round the long end of the gut. If the gut is well wetted and a gentle pull given, the single knot, will slide down to the eye, and form a perfectly secure and rigid fastening, and the gut will stand out in the direction of the shank of the hook. The superfluous end of A may be cut off quite close to the eye.

CLUB REPORTS.

ANGLERS' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

Since my last report I beg to acknowledge, with thanks, the receipt of 10s., annual subscription, from G. H. Field, South London Angling Society; £1 from the donation box of the Rodney Piscatorial's, including 9s. given by T. Hughes.—R. GUYRNEY, sec.

BOSTONIAN ANGLING SOCIETY.

A complimentary visit was paid to the above society on Thursday, April 3rd, when we had a good muster of old friends. The chair was occupied by Mr. Goodge, ably faced by Mr. Holmes, of the Globe Angling Society. There were some excellent songs during the evening. The following gentlemen contributed to the harmony:—Messrs. Fitch, Dingley, Wagner, Jennings, Chambers, Walton, J. Jennings, jun., Elton, Merrill, and Mr. Harris a short sketch on Breeding. Mr. Barr and Mr. Mansfield provided the band, and played some good selections, which were well applauded. I have to thank the following clubs for their attendance that evening:—Great Northern Brothers, The Globe, Phoenix, City of London, Little Independent, and North-Western.—J. JENNINGS.

BUSY B ANGLING SOCIETY.

A new angling society has been formed under the above title, who will peg-down at their new swim, the Four Acre Tavern, Lorrimer-street, Walworth-road, on Monday evening, April 14th. The club will consist of fishing members only. Anglers wishing to join a comfortable little club can obtain all information from the secretary.—JAMES BODELL, 68, Lowthian Road, Camberwell New Road, S.E.

CAVENDISH ANGLING SOCIETY.

A smoking concert was held at the above society on Thursday, the 3rd inst., Mr. C. Elliott in the chair, faced by Mr. E. Chambers in the vice, and was well attended. Many representatives of other societies were present. Our next concert will be held on Thursday, the 17th inst., Mr. E. Chambers in the chair, when we shall be pleased to see any friend who will favour us with a look in. We are located at The Duke of York, Wenlock Street, Shepherdess Walk. Chair taken at 9 sharp.—E. C.

GOLDEN BARBEL.

On visiting this society on the evening of the 8th, I was agreeably surprised to find that the Tavistock Cricket Club, consisting of about 30 members and friends, had honoured this society with their second smoking concert. Among those present I noticed Messrs. R. Boulett, H. Boulett, Brewer, Stacey, Stoner, L. B. Nvoisin, Hotham, Woolvin, Faithfull, Macrow, &c. Mr. Fitzgerald took the chair, assisted by Mr. Stacey. Mr. Macrow presided at the pianoforte. The following gentlemen displayed their vocal abilities, much to the delight of all present. Mr. Woolvin sang "A pint of this" and "Ta ly Ho;" Mr. Faithfull, "The Bellringer" and "The Vagabond;" Mr. Macrow, "Days gone long ago" and "A wreath of roses;" Mr. Stacey, "We all have our funny little way;" Mr. Butler, "Sweet chiming bells, the chorus of this was charming;" Mr. H. Boulett, "Tom Bowling" and "Speed on, my bark;" Mr. Gagan, "Run for the doctor, Charlie dear." Mr. Stacey recited "The Spanish Champion," Mr. Brewer "The Charge at Balacava," and "Sam Weller in the witness box." The time now approached for me to get towards the South, and I had to leave good company much against my will. Members of this society are requested not to go up the shallows all together as the old familiar shop might be occupied by another "specie" when they return.—PINKIE.

GRESHAM ANGLING SOCIETY.

The usual weekly meeting was held at the Mason's Hall Tavern, Mason's Avenue, Basinghall Street, on Tuesday evening, Mr. White in the chair. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. A letter was read from the Thames River's Defence Association, pointing out that the Select Committee of the House of Commons, obtained by Mr. Story-Maskelyne at the instance of the Commons Preservation Society, would shortly meet, and requesting to be furnished with the names and addresses of those members of the society who are able and willing to attend before the committee and give evidence in support of the rights of anglers in the Thames. The further consideration of this letter was deferred until the next meeting. A letter was read from the secretary of the National Fish Culture Association, inviting the society to send specimens of their collection to the International Health Exhibition. On the motion of Mr. Bates, hon. treasurer, seconded by Mr. Godwin, hon. solicitor, it was resolved to forward a case each of grayling, perch, and bleak. The prize list was read and considered. It will be dealt with at the next meeting of the committee, and, as soon as this is done, circulated among the members. Mr. Ohlson having been proposed by Mr. Copeland (and seconded by Mr. Crumple) as a member of the society, was ordered to be balloted for on the 22nd inst. A vote of thanks was then accorded to the chairman, and the evening brought to a close with the usual musical selections.—H.

LITTLE INDEPENDENT ANGLING SOCIETY.

On Wednesday next, 16th inst., we call a special general meeting of our members to take into consideration some important business affecting the club. We hope this notice will be sufficient to ensure a good muster.—W. BROWN, sec.

LOWESTOFT AND OULTON ANGLING CLUB.

The usual monthly meeting was held at the Wherry Hotel, Oulton, on Thursday evening, the 3rd inst., W. S. Everitt, Esq., president, in the chair, Mr. G. Mason, vice-president, occupying the vice-chair. There was a fair attendance of members, among others, Messrs. Rich, Castle, G. Clarke, D. W. Harvey, J. F. Beckett, R. Brand, T. Spackett, and L. T. Johnson (hon. sec.). The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Mr. Everitt gave a descriptive account of the fish poaching case on the Waveney, which resulted in the conviction of the poachers, Jonas Covell and Jeffries Covell, labourers, who were fined the full penalty of £10 or two months' imprisonment. Mr. J. Hooker, hon. sec. of the Beccles Waveney Angling Club, was proposed as a member, and Messrs. A. Stebbings and A. G. Noley admitted as honorary members. It was finally decided to hold the first friendly match on Thursday, May 8, on Oulton Broad and adjacent river, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 6 p.m., when the fish will be weighed in at the Wherry Hotel, host Mason providing tea at 7 p.m. It is particularly requested that members intending to join in this friendly competition will advise the secretary of their intention

if possible before the 1st day of May. The following list of prizes was announced:—Mr. Everitt, a prize for fishing match; Mr. Mason, a prize for the first prize fishing match; Mr. Castle, a rod for the largest specimen bream taken during the season; also the first volume of the "Gresham" Essays for the use of the club; Mr. Clarke, a prize for the largest specimen perch taken during the season; Mr. Harvey, a prize for the largest specimen rudd taken during the season; Mr. Johnson, Mr. Davies' book on Norfolk Broads and Rivers for the largest specimen roach taken before the 30th September next, the winner to be declared at the monthly meeting in October. A vote of thanks having been accorded to the chairman, a most successful meeting was brought to a close in the usual manner.—LEWIS T. JOHNSON, hon. sec.

NEWCASTLE AND GATESHEAD IZAAK WALTON ANGLING ASSOCIATION.

Since my last report there has not been very much doing in the shape of angling; but with the continuance of the present weather for a few days the streams about here will be in capital condition for fishing by the end of the week. Our club will have its first outing this season on Good Friday, when we may expect some good returns. I, myself, fished the Tyne at Hexham on Wednesday afternoon, and landed half a dozen very fair trout with the worm. Messrs. Davison and Watson tried the Tyne at Prudhoe on Saturday, Mr. Watson having seven trout, and Mr. Davison two dace, which are just done spawning and were returned.—J. MAJOR.

NORTHUMBERLAND ANGLING CLUB, NEWCASTLE ON-TYNE.

The North Tyne waters of this club have not been attacked yet, trout not being in condition. The Coquet waters of the club have not been much fished since the 25th ult., the opening day of the season, the weather having been very changeable, and waters very low and clear. The looked-for floods in the lower reaches came on Wednesday, which has improved matters. Five members out this week; all had fair good shows of trout in good condition. Mr. Harbottle, in clear water, creeled 8 lb. with fly; and Mr. Rea had also a capital basket, 2½ dozen good trout, on Thursday last. Weather getting warmer, with occasional rain; good sport, I think, will ensue next week.—J. H., hon. sec.

PORTSMOUTH WALTONIAN ANGLING SOCIETY.

On the 3rd inst., the annual dinner of the above society was held at the Golden Fleece, Commercial Road, Landport, when a large company sat down to a capital repast, supplied by Host Easton in good style. Mr. J. E. Buck (the president) occupied the chair, and among those present were Major-General Sir Frederick Fitz-Wygram, Bart., Dr. Sall, Captain Thackara, and Messrs. J. W. Brough (vice-chair), P. Geen (London), E. R. Hill (treasurer), W. R. Tranter (secretary), Sam Knight, G. C. Sanderson, T. E. Fulljames, T. C., W. Abbott, J. Purkis, H. Street, C. Groom, P. J. Hyams, H. Redward, E. Coles, Proctor, Buckler, H. Lane, Marks, E. Palmer, Daniells, J. H. Hill, C. Pratt, Lobb, H. H. Oliver, E. J. Bake, A. Blake, J. Warn, jun., &c. The loyal toast was submitted by the Chairman, who expressed his sympathy with Her Majesty the Queen and the Duchess of Albany in the loss they had sustained in the death of the Duke of Albany, and at his request the toast was drunk in silence.—The Chairman next proposed "The Army, Navy, and Reserve Forces," which was responded to by Sir Frederick Fitz-Wygram, who was much applauded on rising. He thanked them for the kindness with which they had honoured the toast, which was always well and cordially received in that great naval and military borough. Of late years they had had no serious wars, which had even sufficiently, he might say, try the efficiency, or otherwise, of our newer organisations, but they had had several minor wars—those in Afghanistan, Zululand, and more recently, in Egypt, which had thoroughly tested the qualities of our soldiers. (Applause.) One thing had certainly not failed and that was the pluck and determination with which the British soldier had met his most gallant foe. (Applause.) They all soldiers especially, must respect the pluck and determination with which the Arabs fought; and he felt that many of their gallant soldiers would sooner have fraternised with their foes than with those wretched Egyptians, in whose defence, in obedience to the orders of the Government, they had hazarded their lives and their blood. (Loud applause.) Captain Thackara replied for the Reserve Forces. Sir Frederick next proposed the toast of the evening, "Success to the Portsmouth Waltonian Angling Society." In doing so he said sport was sport, and a sportsman was a sportsman, whether it led him to the wilder excitement of the chase; whether he was fond of cricket; whether he was fond of boating or rowing; or whether he gave his time to the gentler craft of angling; and he always gave all the encouragement he could to the true sportsmen. (Applause.) He looked upon sport as the great antidote to the curse of the overbrain pressure of this nineteenth century. He knew that it might be said that there were great men who had not been sportsmen, but he held that they would have been greater men still had they added vigour of body to their great brain-power. Sir Frederick caused much amusement by relating his first experiences in trout breeding, and went on to say that he had cleared out the upper pond in Leigh Park, and he intended to put trout into that, and coarser fish into the lower lake. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Tranter (secretary) responded, stating that at the present time the society numbered 94 angling members and 12 honorary members. Owing to some heavy and extraordinary expenditure this year a large balance was not expected, although subscriptions had been increased from 10s. to 12s. per annum. Mr. H. Redward had won the prize presented by their late president, Mr. A. L. Emanuel, for the heaviest weight of fish. The society had instituted proceedings for infringements of the Fisheries Act, and had been complimented by the magistrates. They were indebted to Mr. J. P. Knight, Mr. Verrinder, and Mr. S. Knight for the railway passes, enabling them to travel at cheap fares, which they enjoyed. No unusual catch had been made during the year with the exception of that of Mr. R. Barnes, T.C., which consisted of a large pike and a salmon peal; and a handsome grey mullet by Mr. Ritchie. Mr. E. R. Hill submitted "The Honorary Members," saying they were much indebted to several of their hon. members. First, there was Sir Frederick Fitz-Wygram, who not only catered for their present wants, but also had made arrangements for their future requirements; then Sir Henry Drummond Wolff—(applause)—had most liberally contributed to their prize fund; and last, but not least, he mentioned the services of Mr. P. Geen, of the West Central Association of London and Provincial Angling Societies, of whom he did not think it would be an exaggeration to say that he was the personal friend of every member of that society. (Applause.) Mr. Geen, in reply, referred to the Mundella Act, which he characterised as a very imperfect measure. He expressed his pleasure at finding that the amended Act had passed through the House of Commons, and had passed its second reading in the House of Lords. The secretary (Mr. Tranter) gave "The West Central Association of London and Provincial Angling Societies," which was also responded to by Mr. Geen. The remaining toasts were "The Visitors,"

"The Ladies." and "The Host." The remainder of the evening was spent in harmony.—DAGGERWOOD.

RODNEY PISCATORIALS.

Our smoking concert and distribution of prizes took place on April 2. Among those who honoured us with their company that evening were—Messrs. T. Hughes, W. Cotton, Mo'e, Webb, Field, Page, Smith, F. Allard, &c. The following societies were also well represented: Peckham Brothers, Wellington, South London, South-Eastern, Anchor and Hope, Golden Barbel, United Brothers, Excelsior, Second Surrey, and the Foxley. The business of the evening commenced at nine o'clock by Mr. Grant Pocock, who in a few words gave the history of the society, and on behalf of the members returned sincere thanks to Mr. T. Hughes, Mr. G. Lea, and all those gentlemen who had been kind enough to present the society with prizes for competition during the past season. He also spoke of the Anglers' Benevolent Society as a society that deserved the support of all anglers, and previous to distributing our prizes he called on Mr. Field to open the donation box that we had received on behalf of that society a short time ago. "Although we are a small society, I think we have managed to find a few shillings towards the funds of that society." Mr. Field, previous to opening the box, stated that he was very sorry that Mr. Ghurney could not attend there that evening, as he was unwell. The box being opened it was found, which, considering the short time we have had it, was unexpected. Mr. Hughes, our worthy host, stated that he was very sorry to hear that Mr. Ghurney was unable to attend. He had come there that evening hoping to see him and a few more old friends, and he hoped and trusted that he would soon be able to get about again. A few words about the recent complaint of the abuse of privilege tickets, and our worthy host wound up by presenting the difference to make up 20s. towards the Anglers' Benevolent Society. The distribution of prizes now commenced. Mr. Grant, sen., was entitled to take prizes given by the following gentlemen: Messrs. T. Hughes, G. Lea, Marsh, Liversage, Dodd, Chantry, Relph, King, and Harmon. The next on the list was Mr. W. Marsh, who took prizes given by Messrs. G. Lea, Canton, Diggins, and Gold. Mr. G. Dodd took prizes given by Messrs. G. Lea and T. Hughes; Mr. E. Pyne won prizes given by Messrs. T. Hughes and G. Dodd; Mr. Arnsby, prizes given by Messrs. G. Lea and Ball; Mr. Hotham got prizes given by Messrs. Arnsby and G. King; Mr. Grant, jun., prize given by Mr. Arnsby; Mr. Liversage won Mr. Diggins' prize. This brought the list to a close. The following gentlemen presented prizes for competition during the next season: Messrs. T. Hughes, Cotton, Liversage, R. Smith, Ball, Diggins, Harmon, Grant, E. Pyne, Dodd, Webb, Chantry, Arnsby, Hotham, and Messrs. King and Co. I am requested to return thanks to the band of the Peckham Brothers, and Messrs. Terry, W. Witham, and H. Whicheloe for their concertina and banjo solos. The following gentlemen also contributed towards the evening's amusement: Messrs. T. Hughes, R. Solomon, W. Page, G. Dodd, G. White, R. Smith, C. Grant, Taylor, Evans, and several others whose names I have forgotten just now. Members are summoned to attend a general meeting on the 16th for the purpose of revising rules and receiving balance sheet.—PIXIE.

ROYAL GEORGE ANGLING SOCIETY.

On April 1st we had a very big meeting, nearly all our members putting in an appearance, and with them many friends. A very fortunate thing for some of them they did bring friends, it being the night for the annual distribution of prizes. Assistance was required by some to take home their valuables. Mr. Hughes succeeded in taking the gross weight of the season, viz., a handsome reach rod and a quantity of tackle. I might mention that the rod was manufactured expressly by Mr. Gee, of St. Andrew's Street. Mr. Sinclair second; Mr. Hewett third. Mr. Trotter took a very nice silver-plated cup, given by Mr. Chat for gross weight of fish during June last; Mr. Wood, a fine cigar case given by Mr. Hewett; also a sportsman's knife, presented by Mr. Henderson. Mr. Sinclair won a handsome oil painting, given by Mr. Wood for gross weight of chub during March last. Mr. Rider took a pair of jardinieres from Mr. Palmer. In fact, there was such a number of prizes that it would be unreasonable to ask the FISHING GAZETTE to publish the list. We were, I am happy to be able to state, successful in making many new members; in fact, we have added considerably to our numbers since Christmas and I might mention that our balance-sheet of last quarter (ending the last week in March) is the most satisfactory we have had for many years. All the prizes having been handed over to the successful members, the chairman (Mr. Rider), after a few appropriate remarks, proposed "Success and Long Life to the Royal George Angling Society," which I need not tell you was drank in a bumper. The secretary, Mr. Millard, responded, and referred to the progress the society had made this year, and said he hoped soon to be able to say that the Royal George was one of the most successful societies in London. Mr. Marsh proposed "The Health of the Society." Mr. Wood, treasurer, responded. Then they had some very good songs:—"I am a Dad," Mr. Bailey; "Out with my Rod in the Morning," Mr. Hallam; "The Powder Monkey," Mr. Roberts. Mr. Darier, a new member, recited one of the Dagonet Ballads, entitled, "Two Women," in a very able manner. "The Gold Digger" was sung by Mr. Jones; "The Jolly Angler," by the chairman; "My Sweetheart when a Boy," by Mr. Palmer (vice); followed by Messrs. Millard, Holden, Darier, Bailey, and Harris. A vote of thanks was accorded Messrs. Hallam and Roberts, who kindly presided at the piano. "Auld Lang Syne" was sung by the whole of the company, after which every one went away perfectly satisfied that they had spent a most agreeable and jolly night; at any rate, that was the opinion of—W. H. R.

P.S.—Before closing my report, I should like to mention that a great many prizes have been given for the coming season—among them several for trout.

SOCIETY OF CAXTONIAN ANGLERS.

Mr. L. Edwards, of the above society, captured a fine trout in Godfrey's Water, at West Drayton, on the 6th inst., weighing 5 lb. Being alone and without a landing net, he had some difficulty in grassing him.

THE PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

The usual weekly meeting of this society took place on Monday last at Ashley's Hotel, Covent Garden. Among the members present were Messrs. Frederick Bennett, T. R. Sachs, Harden, Brown, Brooker, Blamey, Perelli, Rocco, Pattisson, Gillett, Walker, Fennings, Foreman, Gray, Adlington, Blundell, Dr. Brunton, T. Huggett, T. Lander, &c. Mr. F. G. Pearce, the hon. president of the society, was also present, and among the visitors were Messrs. King and Pearson. Mr. Huggett was unanimously voted to the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The following gentlemen having been duly recommended by the committee, were ballotted for and unanimously elected:—The Rev. George Sumner and Messrs. Charles C. Blundell, H. L. W. Godwin, and W. M. Jesse, with cheers. Mr. T. R. Sachs, on behalf of Mr. W. H. Brougham, stated that Mr. Deller, of the well-known firm of Eaton and Deller, will be a candidate for election in this society. This announcement was received with evident satisfaction by the members present. Dr. Brunton has been successful with the trout as follows:—On the first occasion on one trout, 5 lb., and one 3 lb. on the second occasion, three nice sizeable fish; and on the third occasion, one early morning trout caught (as per promise) for a lady's breakfast. There was a nice Thames trout on the table caught by Mr. E. Walker, at Cookham. This fish was much admired, being in the highest possible condition. Mr. Walker's health, as the successful angler, was duly proposed amidst cheers. He briefly replied, thanking those present for their kindness on this and all occasions shown towards him. Mr. Lemann tried on the opening day for a trout. He had one slight run, but was otherwise unsuccessful. He read a notice from the Thames Rights Defence Association inviting members of this society who may have been interfered with while angling on the Thames to send in their names and signify their willingness to give evidence before Mr. Storey-Maskelyne's Select Parliamentary Committee. The chairman announced that the committee had voted one guinea to the funds of the National Fish Culture Association, and wished the association every success. The hon. president presented a useful book of reference to the library, and a vote of thanks will be duly recorded in the minutes. It was proposed and carried that the hon. secretary at his discretion should write to non-attending members to the effect that the prize lists of the present year are not yet closed. May he meet with liberal responses. "The Success of the Society," and "The Health of the Chairman" having been proposed, brought the meeting to a close.—T. H.

UNITED LONDON FISHERIES SOCIETY.

I beg to inform you the monthly meeting of the Executive Committee will be held on Monday, the 21st day of April, 1884, when I trust all members will attend. Chair will be taken at 9 p.m. prompt.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

WAVENEY AND OULTON FISHERIES PROTECTION SOCIETY.

A meeting of the joint committees of this society was held at the council chamber on Monday, March 31. Present: Dr. Mc Calfe, Messrs. J. E. Crisp, W. P. Garrod, W. Oldham Chambers, W. T. Everett, T. Wilson, G. Mason, and J. Hooker. Colonel Barne being unable to attend, Mr. J. E. Crisp was requested to take the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the chairman made a few observations on the late netting prosecution, which had been so successfully carried out by the society, whereby two men were convicted and sentenced to a fine of £10 each, or two months' imprisonment, and their net ordered to be destroyed. The chairman stated that the society offered a reward not exceeding £5 for information which should lead to a conviction and the forfeiture of a net, and it was for the committee to decide what reward should be paid to those men who had been the means of gaining this conviction. After some discussion the committee, considering the importance of this case, and to show their determination to do all in their power to put down netting, voted the sum of £10 to be divided amongst those through whose instrumentality the conviction was gained. The office of collector for Beccles and district having become vacant, Mr. C. Chase was appointed for Beccles, and Mr. Charles Minns for the Bungay district. It was stated that the sub-committee appointed at the last meeting to consider the best means of forming an angling club had convened a meeting for that purpose, which had been very satisfactory. Considerable interest having been shown in the matter, a club had been formed, and between forty and fifty gentlemen had given in their names as members. It is hoped that the decided action taken by the society will have a effect upon those who are in the habit of netting the river, and that all interested in the matter will do their utmost, morally and financially, to assist the society in their efforts.

WALWORTH WALTONIANS.

The supper that was compe ed for between some of the members of this society and a number of the members of the South London, took place on the 4th at the headquarters of this society. I dropped in on my return from the West End just in time to hear Mr. Buck, who presided, propose the "Health of the Walworth Waltonians," and return thanks to the members of that society for the manner in which the members of his society had been entertained, both as to the repast that they had partaken of and the entertainment that enabled them all to pass a very pleasant evening. The "Health of the Members of the Walworth Waltonians" was drank with musical honours, which brought the evening's amusement to a close. The South London were represented by Messrs. Buck, Kirwin, Buckham, and Goody. By some means or other the other members did not attend.—PIXIE.

WESTBOURNE PARK PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

Several members of this society have been trying their skill with the trout but not with any alarming results. Mr. Lines had one on the 5th inst. from the Thames, weighing 4½ lb., followed on the 6th by one from the Co're by Mr. Tarham, weight 3 lb. A number of the members also entered for a Thames Trout Sweepstake on the 6th, the result being a fish of 2 lb. by Mr. Collier, who secured the prize offered. It is hoped the holidays, however, will produce one more worthy of record.

THE ANGLER AND THE FISHERMAN DEFINED.—A guide once gave the following distinction between the angler and the fisherman, according to good old Dr. Bethune: "An angler, sir, uses the finest tackle and catches his fish scientifically—trout, for instance—with the artificial fly, and he is mostly a quiet, well-behaved gentleman. A fisherman, sir, uses any kind of hooks and lines, and catches them any way; so he gets them, it's all one to him, and he is generally a noisy fellow, sir—something like a gunner."

GEORGE JAMES EATON, of Starkholmes, Matlock-Bath, Derbyshire, respectfully invites Noblemen and Gentlemen to try his standard FLIES for the present season. No flies sent or made up but what he himself has proved sure killers. A trial is all that is required, from gentlemen who can fish, to prove whether they may be genuine or not. Patronised by some of the best fishermen of the day. All flies dressed on the best Kendal hooks. Prices: Point Flies, 2s. 6d. per Dozen; Dropper Flies, 2s. per Dozen. Orders punctually attended to.—(ADVT.)

SALMON & TROUT-FISHING.

CHAS. FARLOW & Co.
191, STRAND, London, W.C.

MANUFACTURERS OF FIRST-CLASS RODS AND TACKLE,
SALMON AND TROUT FLIES, SUITABLE FOR
ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD.

Mahseer Tackle in Great Variety.
Makers of Split Cane Rods.
Improved Folding Trout Landing Nets.
(Very Light).
New Patent Lever Salmon Winch
(Can be regulated to any stiffness at will).
Brown's Phantom Minnows.

CATALOGUES GRATIS. PRIZE MEDALS. IMPORTERS OF
SILKWORM GUT.

JAMES OGDEN,

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PRACTICAL ANGLER, FLY DRESSER, AND MANUFACTURER
OF EVERY DESCRIPTION OF FISHING TACKLE.

James Ogden's Newly-Invented Premier Spinner,

Regd. Nov. 13th. 1883. This Bait is constructed upon an entire'y new and
improved principle. Salmon, 6s. 6d.; Trout, 5s.; smaller do, 3s. 6d.
Silver or Gil'.

JAMES OGDEN'S

Multum in Parvo Fly Rods,

PRICE 21s.,

The enormous and increasing demand for which is a sufficient guarantee for the high
estimation in which they are held by the leading anglers of the day.
All Standard Flies ordered, or dressed correct to pattern, will be despatched by return of
post.

N.B.—NO CONNECTION WITH ANY OTHER PERSONS ASSUMING THE SAME NAME.

" Art, empire, earth itself, to change are doomed."—THE HERMIT.

EXCHANGE.

Things Wanted—to BUY, to SELL, or to EXCHANGE.

N.B.—We take no responsibility whatever in connection with advertisements inserted
in this or other parts of this paper; but beg our readers to expose any case of im-
position. The prices for inserting advertisements in this "EXCHANGE"
Column are 6d. per line for one, or 4d. per line for more than one insertion.
Address Manager, FISHING GAZETTE, 12 and 13, Fetter Lane, London, and send
stamps with the order, or the advertisement cannot be inserted.

WANTED.—Particulars and prices of Secondhand Books on Angling and Fish Culture.
Must be in good condition—Address Editor, FISHING GAZETTE, 12 and 13, Fetter Lane,
London, E.C.
Splendid Trout Flies, 8d. per dozen, as-orted, free.—J. Palmer, Littleworth, Redditch.
MINNOWS All Alive Oh! by the score, hundred, or thousand. Prices score, 8d., 100,
2s., 1000, 18s.—S. Howarth, Bar on-on-Tren'.

THE THIRD "FISHING GAZETTE" ANGLING
TOURNAMENT.

ON Saturday, June 14, at Hendon, it is proposed to hold
another Tournament in aid of the funds of that most useful
and deserving body, The Anglers' Benevolent Society. Details
will be published shortly; in the mean time we should like to have
any suggestions for making the affair even more interesting than
it has been hitherto, in spite of bad weather. Two novel com-
petitions have already been arranged for, and several prizes pro-
mised.

TROUT AT MARLOW.—On Wednesday, fishing off the Weir, Mr. M. G. George,
amateur champion; caught a nice trout, weighing between 3 and 4 lb.; it
was in poor condition, or would have weighed considerably more. It is the
largest trout taken here this year.

EASTER CARDS.—Messrs. Dean and Son, of Fleet Street, have sent us some
charming samples of their Easter Cards.

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RIVER REPORTS.

TIME OF HIGH WATER IN THE THAMES.
To find the time of high water in the Thames at any of the following places,
to the time of high water at London Bridge (given below).

	30 minutes for Chelsea.
40	" Putney.
45	" Hammersmith.
50	" Barnes.
55	" Kew.
75	" Richmond.
80	" Twickenham.
85	" Teddington.

Example:—If it is high water at 2 o'clock at London Bridge, it will be high
water at Teddington about 3.25, or eighty-five minutes later; but it must be
remembered that a strong wind accelerates or retards the tide very much.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.

				Morning.	Afternoon.	
	For Saturday, April 12	..	..	3.0	..	3.16
EASTER	SUNDAY, " 13	..	..	3.31	..	3.49
EASTER	MONDAY, " 14	..	..	4.5	..	4.20
EASTER	TUESDAY, " 15	..	..	4.35	..	4.52
	Wednesday, " 16	..	..	5.8	..	5.25
	Thursday, " 17	..	..	5.45	..	6.7
	Friday, " 18	..	..	6.30	..	6.56

THE LOWER THAMES.

THE TROUT SEASON.

Although the anglers did not make any victories amongst the trout on the
first two days of the season, with the exception of Mr. Burningham, they were
satisfied the trout were plentiful from the fish they saw feeding. The small
trout of 3½ lb. taken at Pen on Hook on the third day was reputed as not
being a real Thames trout. In such cases it is very desirable the fish should
be shown to Mr. James Forbes, of Chertsey Bridge, as it is just possible that the
fish may have been a lake trout that had been hatched at Chertsey similar to
the one caught by Mr. Thomas Speckley last season. Mr. Robert King, one
of the leading Thames trout anglers, scored a double victory on Friday in last
week at Peaton Hook, having taken two fish, weighing respectively 3 lb. and
5 lb. This gentleman is of opinion there are a good stock of trout in the Lower
Thames, and besides those he has taken he has had several other runs. A gentle-
man, fishing at Chertsey Weir on Saturday last with Charles Hone, of Staines,
caught a trout of 7½ lb. On the day following another gentleman, fishing about half
a mile from Chertsey Weir, caught a trout weighing 6 lb., and lost a much larger
one which broke away with about 25 yards of line. Mr. G. Rowles, fishing
from the Bell Weir on Saturday last, caught a trout of 6 lb. A gentleman,
fishing with William Milbourn at the Hampton Court Weir, took a handsome trout
of 4½ lb. The water in this neighbourhood, through the rain on Sunday night,
became very thick and put a check on trout catching for a few days. A gentle-
man, fishing with John Smith at Hampton Court Weir, caught a trout of 2 lb.
John Johnson, sen., in writing from Kingston, says: "I have been un-
fortunate this week; rose two good fish, and had another which knocked the
hooks up. I have seen three more fish in other places. Mr. Dickinson lost
a fine one 10 lb. or 11 lb., and about six yards of line; I saw the fish jump
out of the water three or four times. My son had a fish go clean over his bait."
Many anglers are preparing to spend their Easter holiday among the trout.

Docket Point.

Out with Mr. J. L. Meyer, the first day did not get a fish, although we nearly
had one. I was out yesterday afternoon with a well-known angler; worked
Chertsey Weir, but no luck. We have a rise of water, and half the Weir is out;
will be all right in a day or so. I expect to be out again with the same
gentleman before the week is out, and hope to send you better news. There was
a nice fish caught at Chertsey Weir the first day, about 7 lb. This rise of water
will send the fish up to the Weirs. Water looking better this morning.—
JAMES HASLETT.

UPPER THAMES.

The toiling and spinning that has been going on for the last few days has
deserved success amid the trout; but as yet I only hear of a three-pounder
being taken at Hambleden. The river is in prime order for trout work;
but a nasty cold east wind seems to have taken the feeding propensities from
respectable sized fish. It will be well for anglers to remember that any one
capturing a trout of less than 16 inches in length, and not returning the same
to the river, is liable to a penalty of £5. As I write the weather is splendid—
wind N.N.E., and the sun so scorching for this early part of the season, that
surely I shall have to report the capture of a sogdollar or two in my next
note.—MARLOW BUZZ.

Datchet.

The water to-day (Wednesday) has been rather thick, but a few hours will
make all the difference. I was with a gentleman to-day. We never saw a
sight of one rise. A patron with Keene took a very nice fish of 5 lb. to-day. R.
F. Lines, Esq., on Saturday afternoon, with me, a fish 5 lb. H. Sirton, at
Windsor Weir on Saturday, one, 3 lb., and another small one was caught. Mr.
Lock, High Street, Eton, at Boveney Weir, on Saturday, a fish, 3 lb., and

some small ones, since returned. Since I caught the fish mentioned in last week's report, from good reasons, I refrained from trying any more of them, or there would have been more caught. It was absolutely necessary to go and do something; otherwise people would not believe there are any trout.—**GEORGE LUMSDEN.**

Oxford.

The excessively heavy rainstorm which passed over Oxford on Monday has greatly discoloured the Thames, and certainly for the next few days has thrown it out of order for trouting; but with a continuance of the warm, summerlike weather which seems to have set in since Monday afternoon the fish ought to begin feeding well. As yet trouting on the Upper Thames cannot fairly be said to have begun. Up to the present, so far as I can learn, no one has been out, although it is reported that several good fish have lately been seen at Sandford, Ilfley, Godstow, Pinkhill, and last but not least, Eynsham, where Mr. Geen has an ancient friend of some 14 lb. or so waiting to take a few more samples of his tackle. I can supplement "I. C. U.'s" remarks on Tredwell's general honesty where fish are concerned, as I happen to know that at the first competition of the O.A.S.T.P.S. Mr. Richard Tredwell offered one of the members a large chub weighing 3 lb. for the small sum of 6d., remarking that it would be a rare good 'un for getting a prize. I need scarcely add it was refused, and in no measured terms either. I fear that "I. C. U." has been misinformed regarding the precautions taken by the police to prevent the sale of the tench taken at Blenheim. Nothing of the sort was done at Oxford. Superintendent Head distinctly stated in my presence at the station-house, that he thought the Act only applied to the Thames, or he should have seized the fish, and it was only through the energy displayed by a member of the O.A.S.T.P.S. that the prosecution was undertaken. I must apologise to "I. C. U." for making this statement, for I have no wish or time to cross either pens or purposes with him, but I think credit should go where credit is due, so I must ask him if he wishes to slate me, to defer it until we have another game of Otter; then he may pour out the full vials of his wrath.—**CHEWELL NOTER.**

Goring.

Water now very thick and high. Prospects look bad for Eas er in the way of fishing; I have nothing to report in the way of fishing. I have not had a day yet; I have seen a trout feeding here; I should think he is about 3 lb.—**JOHN RUSH.**

Ancholme District.

The weather is all that the most particular angler can desire. We have had a delightful rain, and now we have the bright sunshine, and spring is donning her garmen's of emerald, spangled with primroses, daisies, and violets. Trout fishing will soon be at its best, as clouds of insects are flitting in the warm beams of Phoebus. I have only been out once for an hour or two and limited myself to two brace. Sundry fishermen have tried the New Riverhead Fishery from Hull, Lincoln, Grimsby, &c., and in all cases that have been reported they have had good sport and speak of coming again. I hope to try it myself on Saturday, but I am looking forward to a day or two on the Bain at the end of the month. The chief flies now are March brown, blue dun, dark woodcock and red spinner.—**THOMAS FORD, Caistor.**

Bure (Norwich)

Good catches of roach and bream have been had in the vicinity of Wroxham, two anglers, fishing in the stream near Wroxham Church, I am told, had excellent sport, filling two flail baskets of fair dimensions with good sizeable fish. I am glad once more to record the fact that Host Thompson, who keeps the celebrated Horning Ferry, is still alive (though I have not heard from him for some considerable time), and I've no doubt during the approaching season, will endeavour to do as he has in the past, viz: cater in the best possible style for all sportsmen who patronise his famed angler's quarters. The fishing hereabouts is well known to be good, though the place is a little awkward to get at; still it will repay the trouble to either the botanist, entomologist, ornithologist or piscator. Next Saturday an old chum of mine and myself intend, for the 11th annual fixture, to fish at Ranworth, near the famous St. Benet's Abbey, and should the wind veer a point or two I hope we may have something to report next week, as perch and bream are plentiful as a rule, in addition to those nuisances, tiny roach, which give us so much trouble on the Bure.—**ROBERT MOLL.**

Coquet (Weldon Bridge).

On the 3rd, Captain H. Orde creeled three and a half brace; Mr. Gibbons, five and a half brace. On the 4th, Captain H. Orde creeled five brace; Mr. Gibbons, 3 lb. 1 oz.; Mr. Smurthwaite creeled three and a half brace. On the 6th, Mr. Gibbons ten and a half brace; Mr. Smurthwaite nine brace; Mr. Dixon, eleven and a half brace. The Bedington Angling Club creeled six dozen amongst them. On the 8th, Mr. Oliver creeled 6½ lb. of trout with fly.—**A. GLASS.**

Exe (Exeter).

Some nice trout have been taken with March brown and blue upright. The salmon fishing augurs most favourably for the present season, as several hundred have gone over Trews Weir and Cowley Bridge. Salmon fishers have had fair sport. Mr. Jervis caught a very nice clean-run fish at Bampford Speke with the silver doctor, and the capture was the more creditable from the fact of his killing and banking his fish unaided; weight, 11½ lb. Lovely weather now, and during the Easter holidays good records will doubtless be the order of the day.—**J. A. KELLEY.**

Exe (Tiverton).

The river is now in good order, and the weather is somewhat against good sport, being too bright. Little has been done the past two days. Some good baskets were made on Saturday and Monday last with hare's flecks, aller bud, iron blue, and blue upright. The grannam has made its appearance, and a few fish have been taken with that fly.—**WM. MUDFORD.**

Lakes of Killarney.

Since the last report we have had fair sport, the lakes are in good order now, the trout are beginning to rise since the wind has changed from N.E. to S.W. On the 4th of April, William Bardon got one salmon 12 lb., Pat Clifford, three salmon, 32 lb., John Robert, two salmon, 23 lb., Tim McCarthy, two salmon, 22 lb. On the 5th, Michael Glessane, two salmon, 23½ lb., Jerry Roberts, two salmon, 25 lb.; Dan Courane, two salmon, 24 lb.; Captain Bloyed, 32 brown trout; Lieutenant Roberts, 37 trout, the largest 1½ lb. Few sealed 1 lb. Several half-pounders. The taking flies were orange, grouse, green, olive, fur, with black hackle; cowdung is also good; claret, with blue hackle is also good. No. 10 hook is the size for the present water. On

5th, Maurice Glessane, one salmon, 22½ lb.; John Connell, one, 12 lb.; Jerry Robert, one 13 lb.; Tim McCarthy, one, 12 lb.; Thade Marah, one 13½ lb.; Daniel Twomey 33 trout; 7th, Tim McCarthy, three salmon, 35 lb.; Pat Clifford, one, 12½ lb.; Michael Glessane, one, 12½ lb.; Dan Courane, two salmon, 22 lb.; Pat Cronin, one, 12 lb.; John Dawning, one, 11½ lb.; twenty salmon taken by the Muckross nets, the largest 19 lb.; Mr. John Ross got three salmon, 33 lb.; Caharnane net got 27 salmon, the largest 26 lb. Splendid sport may be had at Waterville, co. Kerry. At present they have good sport.—**TIM MCCARTHY, Fisherman.**

Lugg and Arrow.

Bo h these streams are once more in splendid order for fishing, the water having cleared itself beautifully for fly fishing. Through the splendid weather and nice warm days we have had this week, the anglers have been quite busy with the fly, doing good execution, and some splendid specimens of trout in very good condition have been taken with the fly. The fish are now rising freely at the black spider and cowdung. In the Arrow on Friday a few fine trout were landed with the Black Spider averaging from ½ lb. each. A few very good fish were landed in the Lugg the same day with the fly. On Saturday some very good sport was had in the Lugg with the Cowdung, and a gentleman landed a very nice basket of fine trout with that fly. A nice dish of trout were taken from the Arrow the same day with the fly. On Monday some very good fish were taken in the Arrow, and a nice lot were landed in the Lugg. The sun shining brightly on Tuesday there were lots of visitors by the water side, and some very good fish were taken. The Pinsley is now in good order for the fly, and the fish are rising well at the fly, several good dishes have been landed in it this week. A few fish have been taken in the Ivington district, little doing in the Shobden waters this week. Fishing quiet in the Bodenham part.—**GWYNNE.**

Moy, Ballina, and Lough Conn.

For a few days last week the river was discoloured, but now is in good order. The only fish killed since last report are:—Mr. C. Little, 1 salmon, 14½ lb.; Mr. Atkinson, 1 salmon, 13 lb.; Mr. H., 1 salmon, 13 lb.; Mr. Coghlin (Foxford), 2 salmon, 16 lb. and 17 lb., on the Lough. Mr. McGillicuddy, 1 salmon, 16 lb., and 10 trout, largest trout, 4½ lb. Free fishing on river and lake, write or wire for particulars to **FRANK HEARNS, Ballina, co. Mayo.**

Olton Broad and Dyke (Lowestoft).

There are plenty of roach to be had here now, as they may be seen in the shallows in large quantities; but there have been no fishermen lately, so cannot report catches. Next month our new angling club commences with a friendly match particulars of which I will send in due time, and then I trust my report will become more frequent.—**GEO. MASON.**

Severn (Shrewsbury).

Fly-fishers have been busy trying their luck during the early part of this week, but I can't hear of any of them having been rewarded with much sport. The salmon fishers seem to have been a little more successful. Mr. John Convey, of Mardol, having received on Saturday last three very handsome fish, weighing respectively 30 lb., 27 lb., and 16½ lb. These were caught by Wild, of Melverley. Messrs Hammond also received three good fish from Evans, of the same place. Two friends of mine, while fishing in a private brook a week or nine days ago, landed respectively seven and five trout; they were not taken with any particular fly, as whatever was nearest to hand seemed to suit their taste. Another friend, on Wednesday this week, caught nine in the same brook. Mr. John Ellis, who is well known in this part as a very expert salmon angler, has up to the present time landed seven grand fish near Newtown, averaging over 20 lb. each. The Shrewsbury Severn Angling Society, at an extraordinary meeting on the evening of the 1st inst., presented Mr. F. H. Morgan with a very handsome present, in the form of a very handsome double-handed fly rod, with the following inscription on the reel fittings:—"Presented to Mr. F. H. Morgan, by the Shrewsbury Severn Angling Society, April, 1884." Mr. Henry Brown took the chair, and Mr. Morris made the presentation on behalf of the society. The present included also 50 yards of salmon line, one dozen gut casts, and a very beautiful reel. The presentation was made in recognition of Mr. Morgan's energetic management of the club since its formation. Thursday was a very peculiar day; at intervals rain fell frequently, but at about 3.45 p.m. we experienced one of the heaviest thunderstorms which has visited this part for many years, accompanied with rain and hail; the stones were very large ones.—**SEVERN SALMON.**

Last Thursday, George Barn, a youth bottom fishing at the back of the Waterworks, hooked a large fish which, after smashing his rod, was safely landed, and proved to be a chub which turned the scale at 4 lb. less an ounce. Friday afternoon two trout were taken spinning. Both I am informed would weigh 3 lb. By the Welsh Bridge a trout of 1½ lb. was also landed. A friend went to a brook on Saturday and secured a trout weighing 1 lb. and one of ½ lb. He was unfortunate enough to miss a trout of quite 2 lb. which ran his minnow. Easthope jun., took two trout from the Severn the same day, and on Monday one of over 1½ lb. and a small one. This young angler seems to be slaughtering the trout this year, and beats his brother at it; but one thing may be said—he is always out. I landed two myself on Tuesday. The river is now nearly low and clear enough for fly fishing.—**SEVERN GRAYLING.**

Teme (Ludlow).

This stream is again in good angling condition. All the tributaries have greatly improved, and fishing has been pretty general this week. The weather has been all that the angler could desire, and the fish are reported to be now getting strong and voracious, and fishermen have experienced little difficulty the last few days in landing a nice dish of fish. The flies that are the most killing about this district are the claret body, March brown, cowdung black spider, and for those that stay by the river's side in the afternoon, the great red spinner, I am informed, is a good killer. On Monday a fisherman near Wooton, on the Ony, landed in a very short time three nice trout, which altogether turned the scale at 3 lb. good weight. At the latter end of last week Mr. R. M., of Corves' reet, visited the Clun and caught nineteen fine trout with three of the flies mentioned above. On Monday in the same stream twelve trout were caught by a gentleman who used no other fly than the black spider: he informed me he never desired better sport. Two gentlemen visited the same waters on Tuesday and to-day, and had excellent catches. Some good fish have been taken up the Corve, but these were caught a mile above Ludlow. We saw some very fair fish that were caught in the Teme on Tuesday with the March brown.—**S. LUDLOW.**

Teme (Tenbury).

The water is now getting in splendid order for fly fishing, having cleared and lowered considerably since last week. The fine weather has brought

anglers to the bank in good numbers, and the fish, are biting freely at the March brown and crowding. Some splendid dishes have been taken. On Friday, the water being stained, a gent tried his luck with the worm, and managed to land some half-dozen very fine trout, some scaling 12 oz. each. A gent tried the water on Saturday with the crowding, and caught a very nice dish of trout. Some good fish were landed between Easton Court and Tenbury with the fly on Saturday. Monday being a splendid day—the sun shining brightly—there were a good lot of anglers to be seen by the waterside, and some splendid lots of trout were landed with the fly. Some good sport was had on Tuesday with the fly. Some good trout were taken with the March brown in the down water. The Kyre and Rea are in splendid order for fishing. The fish are rising freely in both these streams at the crowding and claret-body flies. A nice lot was landed in the Kyre on Saturday, and a few on Monday. A few fish have been taken in the Rea this week. The Ledwyche is in good order for fishing, but there have been but few visitors there this week. There is every prospect of some good fishing at present, as the weather looks as if it was going to keep fine.—WORCESTER.

Wharfe (Yorkshire).

Weather of the most glorious description continues in this district; in fact, it is almost "too fine" to suit anglers, who would rather have less sunshine, and more water in the streams. The Wharfe is running down very low, and it will take a good deal of skill to ensure anything like a respectable dish this coming holiday, when I expect there will be a multitude of fishermen on the river's bank. No good takes to report this week.

Wye and Derwent.

Fly fishing is now good in Derbyshire. Baskets from 5 brace upwards are now being taken daily, both off the Wye, and different parts of the Derwent. The killing flies are mostly the claret, bumble bee, and spider flies. Trolling has been followed with fair success about Matlock, E. D. Pearson killing a splendid trout of 1 lb. 3 oz. last night with the Derby trout killer. The bottom fishers have done well this last week on the Derwent. I hear that the Darley Dale Angling Club have stopped both trolling and bottom fishing on their water below Darley Bridge this season. This is a very great nuisance to many fisherman, who come fly-fishing. Fishing prospects are looking first-class for the Easter holiday piscators.—G. J. EATON.

Yare (Norwich).

The general close time which prevails in all other districts except Norfolk and Suffolk, seems to have an influence on Norfolk anglers, as at present, and indeed for some time past, there has been a thorough dearth of angling items. The elements have combined to attract those who are so fond of studying nature whilst engaged in their harmless, and as Walton would say, "honest recreation." Yet a spell seems to have settled upon them, and only in very exceptional cases have the rod and line been busy. Some nice roach have been taken by those who have boldly essayed to try their luck, and I am informed that at present they present no appearance of immediate spawning, the scales being both clean and smooth. The bream, I am told, on the authority of one who has caught them only as late as yesterday, are up stream near Norwich, and those who like bream fishing will do well to try the upper reaches near and upon Thorpe Broad. Little jack, I am sorry to say, still fall a prey in the dykes to the thoughtless love of killing which seems to animate the breasts of every lad and even grown-up men, and till the Act applies to dykes and all waters leading to or from navigable rivers, I am afraid this sort of thing will go on. I trust the holidays which are at hand will produce plenty of news for next week's report. Prospects good.—ROBERT MOLL.

Yore (Hawes).

I have not much to say this week, owing to the unproductive state of the fishing. The fish have been completely off for the last fortnight. I hear of an angler not a hundred miles from here having taken 96 trout, weighing the magnificent total of 10 lb. This, of course, was not in Wensleydale. I came across a gentleman who was out all day on Saturday last—water in splendid trim; he tried four different lines for three fish. I was out myself seven hours for five fish; another party took two, and another four. The barometer is very low, so there is every prospect of good waters during the Easter holidays. If any of your readers have any good hair to dispose of I should be most happy to take a small quantity for cash, or "much obliged to you," as they think fit. This article is very scarce with us, and any angler to be successful ought certainly to provide himself with several casts of flies on hair. The flies I should recommend are woodcock and partridge browns, water hen and snipe bloas. Can you inform me where I can purchase good hair? If so, shall be much obliged to you.—JOSEPH CORBY.

[Regret we do not know where good hair can be got.—ED.]

THE ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Holiday Arrangements.—The following are a few only of the attractions offered at this very popular place of entertainment:—The Royal Black Diamond Minstrels; "Old Tongue," the celebrated "Whitey-Brown Elephant"; Professor Beckwith's Natatorial Entertainment; Farini's Wonder, Captain Georges Costentenus, "a Noble Greek, tattooed from head to foot by the Chinese Tartars, for engaging in rebellion against the King. His body is completely covered with 388 beautifully delineated figures, in indigo and Cinnabar, of beasts, birds, fishes, reptiles, and hieroglyphics; Duse's Dogs and Monkeys; The Poles (Acrobatic); Frank Travis (Ventriloquist); Castro Brothers (Horizontal Bars); Marie Gilchrist (Change Artist); Fleury (Lightning Sketches); Paul Martinetti's Troupe, in a new and original Comic Ballet. In the Annex—Professor Beckwith's Natatorial Entertainment. On Central Stage, Grand Hall—Grand Military Promenade Concerts; The Band of the Grenadier Guards (by kind permission of Col. Clive); also Jullien's celebrated British Army Quadrilles, with extra military bands; Drums and Fifers and the Pipers of the Scots Guards.

SUCCESSFUL SALMON ANGLING.—Mr. John Ellis, of Newtown, who is well known to many of our local anglers, has met with remarkable success this season. Between February 25th and March 18th, he landed no less than five splendid fish, weighing 105 lb., an average of 21 lb. On Thursday week he commenced fishing at two o'clock near Newtown and by five o'clock had killed two grand fish, one weighing 25 lb. and the other about 15 lb. The largest fish was said to be the handsomest that had been seen in that part for many years. The above fish were taken with the minnow, and must have afforded some grand sport.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

GIMP.—The fish you refer to are perfectly distinct species.

J. R. A.—All the best trout fishing in the neighbourhood of Guildford is strictly preserved—"permission impossible." There are a few trout in the Wey, some parts of which you could doubtless get permission to fish, but it would be hardly worth while unless you are a clever hand. There are plenty of trout in the Thames. You must return all trout taken from the Thames under 16 inches in length.

G. E. H., Nottingham.—Write to Mr. Malcom, Messrs. Woolgar and Co., Ludgate Hill, London.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

NATIONAL FISH CULTURE ASSOCIATION.

SIR.—The aquarium at South Kensington having been placed under the charge of the National Fish Culture Association, it is the urgent desire of the council to make this section of the forthcoming International Health Exhibition as attractive and instructive to the public as possible.

With this in view it has been decided, in addition to the live fish that will be exhibited in the tanks, to invite loan contributions of stuffed fish, fish-eating birds, paintings and prints of fishing subjects, &c. Valuable support has already been promised towards the object in question. To render this department as wide and comprehensive as possible, it is deemed expedient to make a special appeal to angling societies and to private collectors.

I am, therefore, charged by my council to solicit your kind support and co-operation in getting specimens.

My council desire me to assure you that every care will be exercised by them as custodians of the property for the time being, and they will undertake, at their own expense, the charge of removal to and from the aquarium, together with the hanging and the insurance.—I am, &c.,

W. OLDHAM CHAMBERS, secretary.

Exhibition Grounds, South Kensington,
London, April 2nd.

[We sincerely trust many of our clubs, and also private individuals, will aid this society in the way suggested. The society is doing a great work for anglers gratuitously.—ED.]

THE THAMES RIGHTS DEFENCE ASSOCIATION.

SIR.—Mr. Story-Maskelyne, M.P., at the instance of the Commons Preservation Society, having obtained a Select Committee of the House of Commons, to inquire into the operation of the Acts of Parliament for the Preservation of the Thames, and the steps necessary to secure the enjoyment of the river as a place of recreation, it now becomes essential, for the due protection of the interests of anglers and the public, in the continued free use and enjoyment of the Thames, that conclusive evidence should be adduced before the Select Committee to prove that for very many years past the public have been in the habit of angling in and using the various parts of the river and its backwaters without interruption.

I beg to request that you will kindly make enquiries among the members of your society, and ascertain the names, residences, and occupations of those gentlemen and their friends who have been in the habit of fishing in the Thames above Staines, the number of years during which they have angled without molestation, and in what particular portion or portions of the river, whether they are willing to attend before the Select Committee when the time arrives and state what they know on the subject, and the names, addresses, and experience of the various professional fishermen or puntsmen they have employed when angling.

Of course, the greater the experience of any witness the more important will be his evidence.

Please to send full particulars of any evidence which may come to your knowledge, to Percival Birkett, Esq., Solicitor to the Commons Preservation Society, 6, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London.

I may mention that the Committee of this Association and its legal advisers have for some time past, to the best of their power, assisted the Commons Preservation Society in their efforts to free the Thames from encroachments.

It is advisable that none of the evidence should be made public.

It is desirable that the information above requested may be supplied as early as possible.—I am, &c.,

11, Old Jewry Chambers,

London, E.C.

ANGLERS' RAILWAY TICKETS.

SIR.—I have been in communication with the Railway Companies here since the formation of our association in October last, with a view to procuring a concession in charges for travelling when out angling. Enclosed I send you a copy of the last letter I received, and will be glad of any suggestions by means of which the companies may be induced to reconsider their determination. The reason of the withdrawal of the concession, I am informed, is that of abuse of the privilege, which is much to be regretted.—I am, &c.,

R. EDWARDS,

Hon. sec. the Birkenhead Anglers' Association.

Old Post Office Hotel, April 8th, 1884.

[COPY.]

"London and North-Western and Great Western (Joint Lines) Railways.

"Secretary and Accountant's Office,

"Birkenhead, April 5th, 1884.

"Mr. R. EDWARDS.

"DEAR SIR,

"Birkenhead Anglers' Association.

"Following up my letter 27th ulto., I have now to inform you that at the meeting of the Directors yesterday it was decided to withdraw the issue of anglers' tickets generally.

"Yours faithfully,

"(sd.) J. WAIT.

"Secretary."

THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE PRIVILEGE TICKETS.

SIR,—With reference to the threatened withdrawal of the privilege tickets, I beg leave to suggest that if the railway companies would instruct their ticket examiners to inspect the cards at the same time as the railway ticket, on entering a train, the abuse of them would be avoided, and this would probably be a great saving of time to the booking clerks and to the public. The most sincere thanks of all anglers are due to the companies who have granted these concessions; but it is questionable whether they would now be gainers by the discontinuance of them, as many of us would have to curtail our fishing tours. I know for my own part that I should not go out one half of the number of times in the spring and winter that I now do.—I am, &c.,

E. J. W.

THE PROFESSIONAL ANGLING COMPETITION.

SIR,—May I ask why your correspondent, 'I. C. U.', should begrudge the professional fishermen a day's sport amongst themselves for one day during the year? I see nothing in it to be turned into ridicule. It was I who got it up, and not Mr. A. J. Little, who did not know a word about it till the day before the contest came off. What harm is there in it? It is not like professional fishermen sitting in their puns all day long trying to get trout or other valuable fish, for sale or otherwise, which practice I fully condemn; but in this case they got about 26 lb. of dace between the whole 6 of them. I am sure that those gentlemen who have written against professionals fishing by themselves never meant to debar them from a friendly and innocent contest like the one 'I. C. U.' is pleased to remark upon. With respect to the feast, who could do better be at the head of the table than that well-known and respected angler of Twickenham, Mr. A. J. Little, who, when he was asked if he would preside and give the prizes away, said 'Yes' at once, without having to go and consult his friends to see if he might do it or not? If he has done anything inconsistent in that, he and other gentlemen who preside at meetings for the welfare of those below them in station are always inconsistent. I am afraid 'I. C. U.' has never been asked to take the chair on an occasion like this (out of pure respect), so that he cannot speak in a practical point of view of consistency.—I am, &c.,

W. WALKER.

Two Sawyers Inn, Twickenham.

[We must admit that we do not think 'I. C. U.' was quite justified in comparing professionals fishing for Thames trout at every chance with a single day's angling match such as this was. At the same time there was risk of this affair becoming a precedent for similar matches, especially as it was in a left-handed sort of way officially recognised.—ED.]

THE PATENT LEVER SALMON WINCH.

SIR,—In striking a fish off the reel with double hooks, breaking the hold, as it is termed, is almost an impossibility—a common occurrence when the line is held. We often hear it argued that double hooks are a mistake—of one working the other out, &c., &c.; but those who know their value never use single. Salmon reels are not yet perfect, but nearly so; the day is not far distant when we shall see a great improvement in them. These remarks from me will be found in the FISHING GAZETTE, 22nd December last. They were addressed to anglers with limited experience, but perhaps I should have been a little more explanatory. Tweed anglers—some of our best fishermen, too—declare by exception large double hooks; at any rate, they should always be used from the smallest size up to one inch and six eighths in length; the immense advantage is indeed only known to those who constantly fish with them. In striving salmon in a rapid stream, how often does the single gut break when the line is held, and if this does not happen, how often are fish lost because in all probability the flesh has been torn? Neither of these mishaps occur when the brake in the winch is made sufficiently strong to admit of the strike being effected properly without holding the line; then, it will be found that 'breaking the hold' is almost an impossibility.

It is astonishing the number of salmon that are gaffed by anglers who adopt this method, without the hooks having been shifted at all. The subject has been freely discussed during my late visit to the Tay, Dee, Don, and Earn. Upon one occasion I was 'confidently informed' by an angler of some years' experience that my views were altogether wrong. However, he accompanied me, and after banking three very heavy fish, he entirely altered his opinion; the double hooks an inch and a half in length were found upon each occasion to be firm and straightly inserted, without the flesh having been in the least torn, although the fish were played in rapids. There are three exceptions, when the line must be held:

1. In flipping up stream.
2. In fishing across a slow current.
3. When very large hooks are necessary on treble gut.

The new winch, the subject of this communication, is made by Messrs. Farlow and Co. The angler can regulate the strength of it without taking it to pieces, which is a special advantage. It can be made in a moment to run easier than any ordinary reel, or even stiffer than is necessary by merely turning a small external screw which causes a steel spring to press upon an internal plate, so that the action is checked. This spring does its work upon a centre bearing, and not upon the opposite end to which the screw is attached.

The external screw is extremely well arranged. It can be turned with a shilling or any other coin, or it can be made for experienced anglers, like my own, to be managed with the fingers. I prefer those that are silent, without the usual check, because in winding in the line you do not rouse the fish, which is a very important consideration, especially at the head of a rapid; and because when the steel spring is let out to stiffen the reel, it keeps all the plates firm, whereas in ordinary reels they invariably work a trifle loose; and also because they will last much longer than any other that is manufactured, and when required for hitting fish in the ordinary manner, just one turn with the screw will suffice.—I am, &c.,

GEO. M. KELSON.

[The winch is indeed a most excellent one—the workmanship perfect. The same result in a different but equally simple way is attained in the excellent winch recently patented by Mr. Reuben Heaton of Birmingham.]

RUST-PROOF HOOKS.

SIR,—In your issue of the 5th inst., W. Guise and Son, of this town, have a letter referring to my rust-proof hooks. To further ventilate the subject, allow me to give you the facts and truth of the matter. I have been a practical hook hardener and finisher over twenty years, and have finished all sorts of hooks for the leading manufacturers of the town and district, and hold the highest testimonials for workmanship.

When working for Messrs. Harrison and Co., in 1874, I first introduced the

Brown enamelled hooks, of which fact I have abundant proof; but did not offer them to the public until trading on my own account a few years ago, and in your paper of August 26th, 1882, you were kind enough to speak very highly of my invention.

As to the words, 'Brown Enamelled Hooks,' that is the brand I sold under, and is part and parcel of my trade mark, which is duly registered under the Trade Marks Acts, and the label, 'Rust-Proof Hooks,' duly registered at Stationers' Hall.

Having sold my business to Messrs. Allcock and Co., with all rights of registration, &c., I must leave it in their hands to do as they please concerning any infringements of their rights, and leave the public to judge whether there are any pirates or dishonest traders referred to in this and the former letter on the subject.—I am, &c.,

Redditch.

CHAS. COURT.

WORK ON NETS—PERFORATED BULLETS.

SIR,—Allow me through your paper to thank 'H. A. H.' and 'Creel' for their kind information with regard to the latter. It is not a question of expense, but I use my spare time net making, and wish to improve myself generally.

Two more questions and I hope to trouble you no more. Where can I procure small perforated bullets by the hundred? and how can I pierce solid ones for use?—I am &c.,

J. ALFRED KELLEY.

1, Linden Vale, Exeter.

A 'GREAT AND PENETRATING SOUND.'

SIR,—We beg to inform you that we are going to hold some experiments, under the auspices of the Elder Brethren of the Trinity House at Trinity Wharf, Blackwall, with our New Patent Continuous Blast Fog Horn, and we shall be pleased if you may consider the subject of sufficient importance, at the present time, to send a reporter to hear the performance.—I am, &c.,

A. BURNS GLEN, sec.

Holmes' Marine Life Protection Association, Limited,

8, Great Winchester Street, London, E.C.

[There are some noises to which we have no objection—for instance, 'that described by Coleridge's Ancient Mariner as:

'A noise like of a hidden brook
In the leafy month of June;'

but a Patent Continuous Blast Fog Horn! Great Scot! What have we done to deserve this?—Ed.]

ST. NEOT'S FISHERY.

SIR,—I am sorry to be unable to comply with the suggestion thrown out by your correspondent, 'I. C. U.' viz., to make certain inquiries in reference to the late St. Neot's Fishery prosecution. For the following very good reason: That on three occasions myself, twice while fishing from the towing path, and once in a boat, without any gun, and not within the shadow of a notice board, I have been ordered to desist by a person representing himself as a keeper and also by others; but, as I had frequently been informed by the inhabitants that this fishery had always been an open and public one, I have declined to desist. It is true, I have never been summoned, but have apparently run risks. These warnings have always seemed to me as savouring of tyranny. Let us hope that some arrangement may be come to which, while securing private rights (if such exist), may keep this noble river open for the healthful, yet harmless, recreation of the London angler. Or, on the other hand, if any angler persistently misbehaves himself, he should be shunned by all those who are good and true; and, if a club man, his name should be struck off the rolls of the London Angling Society.—I am, &c.,

T. HUGGETT.

FLOATING FLIES ON EYED HOOKS.

SIR,—Fly fishermen ought to be very grateful to Mr. Hall for the valuable information contained in his letter in last week's GAZETTE, also for many other most interesting letters that have appeared at different times. I am sorry to say his eyed hooks are not so popular as they ought to be, the general complaint being that they are so difficult to thread, and that when through the eye it is a bother to fasten the gut. I admit the former is difficult and vexatious with the general run of bought flies, for the simple reason the eye is usually plastered up with varnish, which I think is quite unnecessary. The hackle, which ought to be put on last of all, if properly fastened off, requires no varnish. I have not used it for years, and I can't recollect a fly ever coming to pieces, unless the hackle has been mauled by a trout's teeth. As to the fastening on an eyed hook, it is a much easier and faster operation than linking on a fly tied on gut. The great advantage eyed hooks possess over ordinary ones is that they object to be flicked off; it requires some skill and no little patience to accomplish the feat. I should very much like to know on what principle fly-tiers charge more for flies tied on eyed hooks than they do for those with gut? To my mind, it ought to be 'the other way on.' I was always under the impression that by far the most expensive part of a fly was the gut; it now appears that the gut is of little or no value, and that the difference lies in the cost of hooks. As the difference is very slight, it more than compensates for the price of gut. Flies ought to be tied quicker on eyed hooks, as there is no gut in the first instance to bind on, and there is no possibility of the wings or hackle slipping over the head, just as the fly is finished, and before it gets its dab of varnish. The only reason that I can assign is, that tackle makers do not care to encourage the eyed hooks, for the reason that if universally used there would not be half the demand for flies, one tied on an eyed hook lasting out quite three on gut. What we now want is a book or case, or both combined, suited to carry them; it must not be the old style of flannel and parchment, but something in the form of a cask into which you can stick the flies and release them without the aid of a pair of scissors. Last week I saw in Winchester the very latest contrivance. I think it belonged to some gentleman near Manchester, and was sent to one of the local tiers to be filled up with eyed flies. If this should meet his eye, I hope it will not be too late to caution him that the first time he opens it, when there is any wind, he will lose his entire stock of flies. The case was nothing more or less than a tin paint box folding in half, with a dozen partitions on each side, into which the flies were supposed to be dropped; when opened there was nothing to hold them, consequently the first puff of wind would empty the case. I hope some of our knowing ones will be able to devise something that will meet our requirements. There is no reason why the book or case should not combine receptacles for flies on gut as well as on eyed hooks.—I am, &c.,

HAMPSHIRE.

March 25.

BLOATERS.

SIR,—I can inform "Bloater" that the salt-water herring—for there are two others known to ichthyologists, *Clupea Leachi* and the fresh-water herring or *Powan*—is very white and silvery, and is, as soon as caught and landed, hurled off in "swills" (baskets) in a peculiar kind of cart or tumbrel, to the curing houses. Here they are submitted to certain processes according to whether they are to be prepared as "bloaters," red herrings, or kippers.

For the first, after being gutted and cleansed, they are submitted to but a slight salting and little drying. The red herrings undergo a much longer process, and are generally smoked excessively with the vapours of oak or beech timber; while the kippers, by a modern preparation, are subjected to a bath of pyroligneous acid, which converts their flavour much after the taste of the knuckle-bone of ham.

I have some fifty or sixty receipts for cooking herrings—foreign and English—many of which are curious, which I will give in the FISHING GAZETTE if deemed of interest.—I am, &c.,

CREEL.

["Creel" might give us a few of the best ways of cooking the herring—one of the very best table-fish in this world, in our opinion; in fact, if it was as scarce as it is plentiful, it would be considered the fish of fish.—ED.]

THE ST. NEOT'S CASE.

SIR,—I always try to send my mite when I hear of riparian owners trying to prevent the angler following his harmless sport. In furtherance of this principle, I had got a postal order and filled in the name of Mr. Wainwright when I accidentally caught sight in your journal of the remarks of "I. O. U." anent the gun. I have waited a fortnight thinking a satisfactory explanation might be forthcoming from Mr. Wainwright. I have not seen any such explanation. If it is true that Mr. Wainwright was using a gun, and that, too, round about the church, then all I can say is that what subscriptions he received he ought to refund, and be at the expense of the defence in this case himself. It is difficult to imagine how men can be so recklessly foolish as to endanger the valuable privileges anglers have had such a hard fight to win. Such conduct is only worthy of boys. I have witnessed this gun business myself at Shiplake Hole also on Sunday, and, as many of your readers know, the church is very close. I don't wish to prejudice the case yet, but I hope whatever association Mr. Wainwright belongs to will have a word with him on the subject.—I am, &c.,

A. J. MARRIOTT.

FISH IN PARK LAKES.

SIR,—In reply to Mr. Woolfall's letter which appeared in your last issue, I have to reiterate that the resolution as to the exchange of fish was not passed under a wrong impression. The terms of the original (as he puts it) understanding between the two officials are not known to me, but I understand the letter from the official in Birkenhead conveyed a suggestion that the Liverpool official might have a number of common fish, as in Birkenhead Park lakes there is a redundancy of them. Knowing from experience that such a statement was decidedly erroneous, steps were taken to place the matter right; hence the action of some gentlemen here. The experience I name has been acquired by me during fifteen years' angling in our lakes and which, I submit, entitles my word to some credit. The "original understanding," which, to say the least, was premature, could not be binding on the respective park committees, as (it must be patent to Mr. W.) any arrangements made by them of a necessity would be subject to approval or otherwise. It would be reasonable to assume that any promise made was but the desire to oblige. Is it necessary for me to state what common fish comprised?

We assumed that in being allowed to help themselves to what there were in the lakes, the Liverpool officials (without insinuating they might be prompted by the anglers) might not err on the side of mercy; in fact, they might even by accident take the largest fish, and leave to us the small fry. To obviate such a catastrophe, the "famous" resolution was passed—at least, we hoped so. No equivalent, Mr. W., in the shape of tench and perch was ever dreamt of by us even in our sleepiness, and I am surprised to find that the adage holds not true, "A nod is as good as a wink to a blind horse." With reference to Mr. W.'s assertion that I ever denounced the existence of small roach, I may observe that he is "grievously mistaken," in proof of which I expressed to one of his members the pleasure I would have in procuring some of the "little beggars" for him, he wanting them for some gentlemen who were going "jack-fishing." My want of avidity (I am now speaking of my members) in declining to rise at the "big chance" of absolutely ruining our fishing needs some apology, which I tender unreservedly. I am pleased to state, Sir, that the Corporation of Birkenhead have, at the solicitation of my association, been kind enough to reduce the charge for fishing tickets from £1 is. to 10s. 6d. per annum, and which concession precludes us—or at least should do—from asking them to restock the waters.

I shall be obliged by any information you can give me as to the nearest place from which fry can be procured—say, of tench and perch. With an apology for trespassing on your valuable space,—I am, &c.,

ROBERT EDWARDS,

Hon. sec. the Birkenhead Anglers' Association.

Old Post Office Hotel, 1st April.

[We regret we do not know where coarse fish fry can be got, but hope the National Fish Culture Association will soon be in a position to supply it.—ED.]

A FINE PERCH.

SIR,—Mr. R. Wilson, one of our members, was fortunate enough to take on the 14th ult., out of Cole Mere, Shropshire, a perch which weighed 3 lb. 1 oz. Mr. Wilson is having this fine specimen set up by a local artist, a fate it is well entitled to.—I am, &c.,

RD. WOOLFALL,

April 1.

Hon. sec. the Liverpool Angling Association.

WHITE MOULD ON FISH.

SIR,—Can you or any of your numerous readers tell of a cure for white mould on fishes in an aquarium? They have running water and plenty of weeds. Is it caused by its being the spawning season, as I have had some of them for over six months?—I am, &c.,

C. SIMPSON.

Acton.

[Take the fish out, and rub the parts affected with flower of sulphur, as recommended by Mr. Silk. Is the water you use hard or soft? Spring water is bad, as a rule; clear pond or river water is best.—ED.]

SPINNING FLIGHTS.

SIR,—Has your correspondent, the "Bostorn Bittern," in his search for an efficient flight for spinning the natural bait, never heard of or seen the "Pennell"

flight? If not, let me advise him to give it a trial next season, as I am confident, after trying various others, that there are none to approach it. I have used it now for three seasons, and as to missing 50 per cent. of fish, as he complains of, I will engage that if mounted and used in the manner recommended by its inventor (and it can be so procured at several of the London tackle makers) that he will not miss 10 per cent. of the fish with it. It is as superior to the old-fashioned three-triangle flight as sunshine to a rushlight. It gives a most brilliant spin, and I have taken fish with it when all other methods have failed. I get mine from Mr. A. Young, of Oxford Street, and find them well and properly made by him.—I am, &c.,

Bury St. Edmunds.

ROTANS.

SEA FISHING.

SIR—I often regret that all articles on fishing in the regular fishing papers are written for men, never for boys, and wonder that editors and contributors alike do not take more delight in looking back to their earliest feats with rod and line. I have been glad to see in the issue of the 22nd March last the first of a series of papers on fishing, and I want to put in a plea for a fish which afforded my small boyhood no small sport—the shoal bass.

I was down in the neighbourhood of Gosport last summer for a week at the end of August, and had the satisfaction of renewing my acquaintance with the fish in question, with vastly improved resources on my part, but not with keener zest than of old. The bass is, in my opinion, one of the very gamest fish that swims, and when well on is a very bold biter. I only had to regret that they did not run larger within the limits of the harbour and creeks, outside of which the cockleshell nature of my boat would not permit me to venture.

Armed, however, with an ordinary 10 feet bottom rod (one, in fact, which might be converted into a tolerable fly rod by the substitution of a longer top), a reel with fine running silk line, some short gut collars, some small high-shouldered Thames floats, and some sneekbent hooks, I sallied forth with two friends one morning at the latter end of August last, and pulled them round from the Coastguard Pier on a flowing spring tide up Haslar Creek to the point where it divides into two, one running up past Newtown, and the other penetrating almost to the pretty old Alverstoke Church and the well-known Gilkieker landmark. We fixed up to a mud bank rising sheer out of the water so as to form a little island at this point by driving a stout wooden peg into the soil and making fast our painter to it. Our bait was fresh and lively rag worm dug that very morning in the Newtown Creek. We lost no time in setting to work, and the first float in had not sat upright two seconds when, with a preliminary tremble, it went under, and my right hand companion brought up two lively bass of about five to the pound. This was within an hour of high water, and for the next hour fun was fast and furious. Both my companions were new to the business of fishing, and I had at first to bait for both as well as for my myself. At slack water sport slackened for a few minutes, and then began again and lasted for about half an hour as the shoals of fish coasted down with the tide in search of food. One of my friends took one, and I another, which might have weighed 10 oz. between them, and those were the largest we got. Our total catch was 5 doz in about two hours, and then, sport ceasing suddenly, we loosed off and returned to the town.

In former expeditions I have taken from the bank from none to four dozen to two rods in a two hours' tide, so the day was not an exceptionally good one. The best time to catch is on a rising springtide, with plenty of sunshine and a light breeze. For bait there is nothing equal to the rag worm. Live shrimp is sometimes pretty successful, especially from Stokes Bay Pier. In some of the moats about Gosport and Stokes Bay good fun is to be had with the bass, but they nowhere run much higher than three to the lb. Occasionally large fish are taken, but they are rare, and it is hard to conceive where all the myriads of small bass that ascend the creeks go to when they grow up. In spite of their small size they are dreadfully troublesome.

As an instance of their pluck, I know nothing to equal this. I once was fishing in the Newtown creek and I saw something was agitating my float. I pulled up and found hanging from my bait a bass about the length of an inch, and not nearly so thick and heavy as the worm he had attached. He was infinitely smaller than the float.

Any depth of water can be fished in from 18 inches upwards. We had it from three to six feet. The bait should be just off the bottom; though this exposes the angler to the enterprising crab. The sneek bend is not a hook to be specially recommended for strength, but I know no other that has such at knack of taking hold. On the occasion I have written about not one bite was missed, the fish frequently coming two at a time.—I am, &c.,

G.S.

FISHING NEAR SALISBURY.

SIR,—I know Harnham on the Nadder (for so it is spelt), and "Avon Trout" cannot do better than give his experience of the waters around Salisbury. Harnham, with Fisherton, are suburbs of Salisbury, and are much more ancient than the city itself. The old part of Harnham Mill is very curious, of the time of Henry VII. and VIII., and the bridge dates back to 1244, having been built by Bishop Bingham. This district, if judiciously worked, will prove a perfect paradise to the angler. The greater portion of the two chief branches of the Avon—one of which rises at Bishop's Cannings, on the south of Stanton, and between Woodborough and Beeching Stoke, which is the north-western branch of the river; the other, the north-eastern branch—is formed by the union at Pewsey of two small streams, one rising at Wootton rivers, near the south-western corner of Marlborough Forest, while the second flows by the villages of Easton and Milton. Beside the streams, the Avon is joined at Salisbury by the tributary Wily on the east, and on its west by the winter stream called the Bourne, which comes from Great Bedwin. All these water sheds are well supplied with fish, and by tact and the exercise of a little address (not to say respectable introduction), permission may be obtained to angle. The plan that I have invariably found to succeed is to attend the Market table at either the White Hart, Red Lion, Three Swans, or Bull's Head, and take the opportunity of mentioning one's wishes to the farmers assembled there, who are sure to assist either by direct leave or the mention of some good-natured proprietor to whom to apply.—I am, &c.,

CREEL.

A QUERY.

SIR,—Allow me to ask if there is any record known to you of a trout weighing 7 lb. 13 oz. having been taken on the Thames with a fly on a single-handed fly rod. Or of a pike weighing 24½ lb. on a single gut, while barbel fishing with a worm.—I am, &c.,

CHAS. M. FOOTITT,

Marlow, April 7th.

Hon. sec., Thames Angling Association.

[We fancy a pike of over 20 lb. was taken last year on single gut barbel tackle. So few Thames anglers use the fly for trout, that we cannot bring to mind any capture of the kind.—ED.]

HOW TO KNOT GUT ON TO EYED HOOKS.

SIR,—If I remember rightly, I have seen in a back number of the GAZETTE a description of Mr. Hall's method of tying the gut to flies dressed on eyed hooks, but unfortunately cannot come across same.

Will you, Mr. Editor, either kindly repeat the directions, or inform me in which issue of your very valuable paper I can find the desired particulars? I am sure we fly fishers are greatly indebted to Mr. Hall for the many wrinkles he has put us up to from time to time—notably his letter which appeared on March 22nd.—I am, &c., A. M.

Oldham, March 26th.

[We published an illustrated description of the method in April, 1882, and give it again this week.—ED.]

DACE FISHING AT TWICKENHAM.

SIR,—I have thought that the following account and analysis of my last

season's experience at Twickenham might prove accep'ab'e reading to some of your many readers during the present dull season. I fished on 15 days ranging from the 26th August, 1883, till the 10th February, 1884, my total take during that time being 107 lb. 4½ oz., an average of 7 lb. 2½ oz. The best take was on the first-mentioned date, viz., 17 lb. 10 oz., the whole being dace, with the exception of 13 oz. of roach. This I think you will agree to be one of the real old fashioned days' fishing at Twickenham. The lowest day's take was on Nov. 11th, viz., 1 lb. 4 oz. Taking the average weight of each fish to be 2 oz., the total would show 858 fish, an average of 4 dozen and 9 per day. The whole of the fish were taken with one rod, and I was on several occasions accompanied by my friend, Mr. Maslin whose average, if worked out would, I feel sure, almost equal my own. This will give some idea of the quantity of dace taken during the last season. The whole of the fish were taken in one of Mr. John Coxen's punts, and I was attended upon by A. Fred Farmer, and I must in justice to him say that a more painstaking, hard-working fisherman, it would indeed be hard to find.—I am, &c., R. A. BANFIELD.

Clapham Junction Angling Society, April 9th, 1884.

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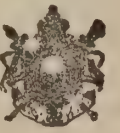
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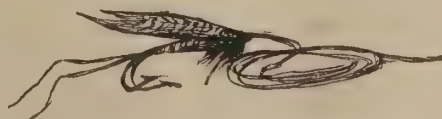
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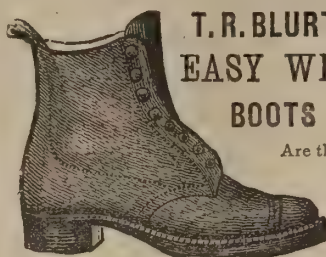
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The Fishing Gazette.

SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 1884.

SALMON-FISHING IN SCOTLAND.

BY R. B. MARSTON.

(Continued from page 170.)

ON Sunday Mr. Malloch took us to see the Perth Natural History Museum, for which he has set up many fine specimens of both birds and fish. The collection is a small but most interesting one, and is confined chiefly to representatives of the animal, vegetable, and mineral products of Perthshire. In the afternoon we had a stroll through "The Fair City," crossed its fine bridge, and climbed the somewhat steep ascent to the top of Kinnoul Hill, whence we got a magnificent view called by Pennant "the glory of Scotland,"—it is, in fact, a perfect panorama of some leagues of the beautiful valley of the Tay. South-west of us is the long range of the Ochil Hills, on the east the Carse of Gowrie, with the remains of the ill-fated Tay Bridge just in view, and the whole scene sweeping round from north-east to north-west is made up of hills and valleys, with snow-capped mountains in the far distance. No wonder Millais is so fond of this district and has painted some of his finest pictures here, including "To the River" and "To the Sea." Mr. Malloch tells me Mr. Millais is almost an enthusiastic salmon angler, and on one occasion refused a fabulous price offered by an American lady for a painting of her and her husband rather than lose his autumn salmon fishing. He has "composed" several most killing salmon flies, which Malloch makes from his paintings; one especially, called the "Millais," Mr. M. thinks very highly of, and has promised to send me a sample. As we descend, the lights of Perth are beginning to twinkle through its overhanging cloud of mist and smoke and our walk has given us an appetite for dinner.

Monday, March 24.—To-day we are all to fish at Cargill. As the water has fallen considerably, more "catches" are fishable. A "catch" is either a pool or a stream, or some portion of either, where the salmon rest for a time in their upward journey from the sea to the spawning grounds. An angler unacquainted with these places may waste half his time in flogging most likely-looking casts that for some reason or other never, or rarely ever, hold rising fish—they invariably pass through them. And so season after season each new run of fish will be found resting in the same places. The fresh fish, as a rule, select the stronger and deeper runs, the kelts as they drop down exhausted from their labours seeking less turbulent water, though you may often get a kelt where you would expect a clean fish, or *vice versa*.

As we cross over we notice the netmen have got one fish as a result of their morning's toil. Kelson decides to fish from the bank, and Thomas and I take to the boat. It is worth a day's journey to see Kelson fish—he never seems happy unless the water is within an inch or two of the top of his long wading trousers, and when he gets into the water you very soon see nothing of him but his head and shoulders and arms working his big rod as easily as though it were a mere toy. For a second or two the line comes in a long sweep behind, the gut glistening in the sun, and then the forward stroke sends the fly gracefully

and lightly straight to its mark at what appears to us to be an unattainable distance away. The direction of the cast is generally the same—at an acute angle, down stream either to the right or left. As soon as the fly alights the rod point is dropped to within a foot or so of the water, and then slowly raised and lowered about a foot at a time as the fly is gradually worked round to right or left. Anyone watching the fly would see that it appear to make spontaneous starts and stops, at the rate of about twenty a minute. When it moves forward the feathers close round the hook, and when it stops they expand and show the glitter and colour of the body. This is Mr. Kelson's method, and it seems to me it is the most rational and deadly way of presenting the fly to the fish. Touching this matter, I see that "Ephemera," in his delightful "Book of the Salmon," long out of print, says:—

"The error of the majority of salmon-fishers lies in their working the fly through the water with too much force and rapidity. . . . I advise gentle working of the fly through, and against the water, with no more action than is required to display before the eyes of the fish the artificial bait attractively; with no more speedy power than can be easily compassed by a pursuing fish."

On a future occasion I must give some extracts from this work. It is full of most valuable hints, and anyone who can pick up a copy will not be disappointed even if they give twenty or thirty shillings for it. The numerous hand-coloured copies of English, Scotch, and Irish salmon flies are perhaps the best ever published.

But Mr. K. is away down to try below the Railway Bridge, and our boatmen are rowing us backwards and forwards over a splendid stream just below the junction of the Isla with the Tay. We had capital sport. T. got three kelts, and I got two and a very pretty clean-run fish of 12 lb. The scenery beggars description; and, as we lunch on the bank under the ivy-covered ruins of a once massive stronghold of Sir William Wallace, we think what glorious sport is salmon-fishing among such scenes. We have to walk to Stanley Station, a good three miles along the line; K., who has fished the lower water from a boat, meets us half way, and we find he has been engaged successfully with a fine bull trout of 20 lb. The "fish" on my back begins to feel heavy, and in swinging it round to the other shoulder my game knee gives way again with a horrible jar, and for the rest of my holiday makes walking, and especially wading, a painful and somewhat dangerous operation. When, some years ago, jumping a stream, trout-fishing in Devonshire, I sprained it first, the doctor said I should have done better to break it. I did not believe him, but recent experiences have convinced me that a "bad sprain is worse than a break."

In the evening Mr. Malloch joined us, and related some of his adventures when salmon and trout fishing. On one occasion, when fishing on a cold night on Loch Tay, with a tremendous gale of wind blowing, his companion got a splendid run, and for half an hour played his landing net, in which the minnow had got caught. Another time, in the autumn, he had hooked and nearly killed a salmon in the Tay, and a companion put, as he thought, the net under it and lifted it out. What was M.'s astonishment to find his fish was still on! It seems a second fish had followed the first and got landed in mistake, some leaves floating on the surface preventing its seeing its captor until too late.

Last autumn, on the Earn, Malloch killed fourteen fine salmon in a few hours. Major X., who had been fishing all the week with but poor sport, was quite enraged at seeing M. kill fish after fish, and, finding he was using a small fly, concluded, as he (the Major) was using a large one, that was the cause of his bad luck, on which his gillie remarks, "Eh, mon, I've just been thinking yer flies were too large these three days; it's the way ye didna' get ony fish." "Mon, then," said the exasperated Major, "why didna' ye tell me so?" And he chased him with the gaff, while the poor gillie flew for his life.

Next day, Tuesday, we went to Stanley to fish Mr. Hall's water again, and Mr. Malloch and his friend, Mr. Clark, went with us. Mr. Clark fishes chiefly on the Spey, and at Kelson's suggestion he kindly gave us a lesson in the Spey cast, at which he is an adept. As K., who was delighted with it, intends to describe it in the GAZETTE, I will leave it to him. Malloch says he has often seen Mr. Clark send out between 40 and 50 yards of line when doing the "Spey." Mr. Thomas and I fished from the boat, and to-day we fully expect to get a fish, as the "Little Head"—a fine catch—is in order, and can be fished from the boat. But not a touch can we get, and as it is friend T.'s last day I begin to fear he will have to go back to town without a clean fish. At lunch he got into a long argument with Jamie on "predestination," and, I think he will admit, did not get the best of it; but he had his revenge. J. had been enjoying some sardines very

much. "Certainly, they're nice bits of fishes, and the sauce is no' so bad." "Glad you like them, Jamie; have some more oil." "Oil! ye no mean to say I've been takin' oil into me!" and from the horror-struck expression on Jamie's face he evidently thought he was poisoned. He was very quiet for a long time, and when we resumed our fishing T. endeavoured to heighten his fears by describing the terrible effects oil has on anyone who is not used to it. Suddenly, and when we least expected it, T. gets fast in a fish. Every second I expect to see his winch, an old multiplier, break down, for the fish is strong, and there must be 90 yards of line out already. I tell T. I would not give him twopence for his winch as I watch with what difficulty he slowly grinds it round by main force, like a coffee-mill with a button in it. I also relate to him an incident told me by Haggart, how an angler using one of these multiplying deceptions had every cog stripped off by the rush of a fish. As T. jumps ashore I offer to bet him a shilling it is a "fish," and a few minutes later when a lovely "baste," as Jamie calls it, is lying on the bank, T. and I shake hands spontaneously. I guess it will go 20 lb. Jamie's man lifts it by the tail, and then gives his verdict as "between 17 and 18 pund," and 18 "pund," he goes when we weigh him at the station. Our friends turn up soon afterwards. K. has been attacking the neighbourhood of Hell's Hole again, and again lost a fine fish, owing to the extremely difficult nature of the place. He had played the fish for a long time, and given his rod to Malloch while he waded out below to attempt to gaff it; meantime, the fish came up stream again and gets the line round a rock. K. is delighted at T.'s success, and his fish is duly admired as we ride to Perth in the train. I do not remember ever seeing a more beautifully-shaped fish. T. is a Mason—a Freemason, I should say—and one of the disadvantages of belonging to that ancient Order is, as in this case, that "important business" may cut short your fishing holiday. We are as sorry to part with T. as he is to go; but as he evidently thinks the whole blessed pile of Masonry will come down with a run if he does not go, we reluctantly see him off next morning—probably he had got word that the Pope, as he has since done, was about to denounce all Masons as nothing but dynamitards in disguise.

THE EARN.

We had heard so much about the Earn from Mr. Malloch that I was anxious to see it, so Mr. M. joined us, and we took the train to Forteviot, a station a few miles out, to fish some water under Dupplin Castle, the seat of the Earl of Kinnoul. At the Forteviot Hotel we stepped in to get a "wee drappie." "Wull ye hae nups or glusses?" said the landlady's daughter. K. and I are utterly nonplussed, and have to appeal to Malloch. "She means will you have nips or glasses?" says M., laughing. At the saw mills we are to meet the Earl of Kinnoul's head keeper, and we have not been there above a minute or two before he arrives—over six feet high, and broad in proportion, with a bronzed, kindly face, the very type of one of those braw Highlanders we English picture to ourselves from Scott's novels. After showing us a very well-arranged fish hatching house, in which are many thousands of salmon fry, he takes us across the Earn, and points out the best casts for trout. The Earn is a fine river, running in long streams and streamy pools, and holding quantities of very fine yellow trout, for which we are a month too early; there is also a fair quantity of whiting, or white trout in it at present, but this bitterly cold east wind prevents any rise of fly. Malloch and Kelson are trying experiments with an ingenious new metal reel of M.'s devising for casting in the Nottingham style. He can get out sixty yards, he says, and I should not be surprised if this winch does not take a prize or two at our next Tournament. M. then borrowed one of my gossamer gut casts, and was fortunate enough to hook a whiting of between three and four pounds, which shows splendid sport; there is no landing net, and K. to secure the fish, improvises a gaff out of a salmon fly and his walking stick. The keeper then lends K. a salmon rod, and he has a try, but with no success; the few fish which we see move are not in taking humour, and when we pack up, our combined bag consists only of one or two whiting and yellow trout. In the evening Kelson and I went on to Aberdeen, where Mr. Bell, who now has the late Mr. Brown's fishing tackle business, meets us with the offer of some salmon fishing on the Don next day. We put up at the Imperial, a capital hotel, the proprietor of which has a special tariff for anglers.

Thursday, March 27.—Our holiday extends to only three more fishing days. Loaded with our angling paraphernalia, we make our way through Aberdeen to George Street, to find Mr. Bell, and after a look at his capital stock of flies, made chiefly by his wife, we go with Mr. B. to the house of Mr. Fraser, who has kindly promised us the fishing on his water close to Aberdeen. Mr. F. gives us a hearty welcome, shows us over his extensive granite works, and among other things an immense

granite sarcophagus, which he is making for an American gentleman and his wife who came over specially to order it. Mr. F. informed me that he had to pay £700 for the block which now has a recess cut in it to contain their coffins, before it was moved from the quarry. We then take a tram (fancy taking a tram to a salmon pool) to Mr. Fraser's water on the Don. Mr. Bell and a friend, Mr. Laing, go with us; Mr. Laing makes a splendid salmon fly. The water, we find, is a fine pool below a cruipe or dam, of which there are only too many on the Don, and several fish rise while we put our rods together. Mr. Laing puts up a "Beaconsfield" fly for me, a really lovely fly, and I fish all day, wading up and down the edge of the pool, without a single touch, change the fly now and then, try a phantom for a time, but all to no purpose. Kelson, with the ill luck which has followed him on this trip, gets fast in a splendid clean fish, well into the twenties. Of course, he is, as usual, in a place where every chance is in favour of the fish. Out in the middle of the stream, where it is over his head in front, and on each side of him, and where, unless he takes to the water and swims down the pool, as Mr. Fraser tells me Mr. Laing has often done, his only chance is to walk back, through a rocky, rough torrent, for twenty or thirty yards, to a spot where he can wade to the side. The fish has been on for fifteen minutes, fighting most gamely. Once K. gets it almost close to the gaff, and then the great strain he has been compelled to put on to get the fish up stream wears the hold out. Later on in the day he gets another fish on in the same spot; as it is much smaller, he manages to cross by letting out a long line, and lands it. There are no kelts here, for we are only two miles from the sea, and this dam is the first impediment they meet with.

THE CRUIVES OR DAMS ON THE DON.

Were it not for these formidable artificial barriers at the numerous mills on the lower length of the Don, it would unquestionably be one of the finest salmon streams in Scotland. It is a thousand pities the landowners do not form an association for opening up the river by means of practical salmon ladders. The McDonald fish-way, now so extensively used in Canada and the United States, would, I feel certain, convert the Don from a third-rate into a first-rate salmon river. The fish-pass at present in use at that terrible mill-dam barrier at Muggiemoss, is practically useless, I am told. If any of my Aberdeen readers would like an illustrated account of the McDonald pass, I shall have much pleasure in giving it.

We had an extremely enjoyable day on Mr. Fraser's water, and hope Mr. F. will some day give us the chance of trying it again. In the evening, Mr. Murdoch, who has given us such valuable accounts of Don and Dee fishing and flies in the GAZETTE, called on us. He has got us a day on Mr. H. McDonald's water, at Parkhall, and we decide to go there in the morning. After a long and pleasant chat with Mr. M., K. and I have a game at billiards, and experience how impossible it is to hold a cue properly after salmon-fishing, which is certainly hard work, and a long day of it makes one's arms feel as if they had been boiled and then sewn on.

Friday.—On getting down to breakfast, we find a pressing invitation from Major Traherne, who has rented a stretch of the Dee above Banchory, to go out and have a day with him, which we naturally accept with pleasure, and decide that we will go on there this evening. Just before starting for Mr. McDonald's water, I rush off to see if I can get a packet of that best of all tobacco I have ever tried, Messrs. Lambert and Butler's sun-dried honeydew. If any of my readers who smoke much have not tried this, I can strongly recommend them to—it is so cool and sweet and unvarying in quality. My plan is to carry it in the lead foil in which it is packed, as this keeps it moist and uncrumbled. The lead foil has often served me in good stead to put under the winch plate when it does not fit tightly. My hunt for my favourite smoke caused us almost to miss our train, and quite to forget our lunch. "Kitty Brewster—that is a queer name for a place," says K., as we stop at a station. One of our fellow passengers informs us it is called after a local celebrity of that name, who once kept a toll-gate here. On getting to Dyce Junction, where Mr. Murdoch had told us to alight, the station-master informs us that Mr. M. has been out by an early train, and left instructions for us to go on to Parkhall, the next station. Very good of him to take all this trouble on our account, and another instance of the hearty manner in which our Scotch friends tried successfully to make our visit a pleasant one. Our instructions are to begin at the bridge, and Mr. McDonald will meet us. We now discover we have the day before us, not a particle of food and no inn within Lord Beaconsfield's famous measurable distance. K., who is never at a loss, decides to see if the old lady at the lodge by the river, who is engaged in cooking her morning meal, cannot help us. In we stalk, and K. explains the situation and asks for the loan of some bread and cheese. We un-

derstand her to say she has none. "Try her with oat cake," I suggest. "Capital," says K., and after bawling into her ear for some time he makes her understand, and a pile of big three-cornered cakes is soon forthcoming. K. then makes her happy with ashilling, which she hardly likes to take, and then she blushes like a rose as he asks her when the wedding is to be. "Yes, wedding—I hear you are going to get married very sooh," and he appeals to her grand-daughter, who has just come in with a can of water for the porridge, to confirm his statement. On getting to the river we discover there are two bridges. The old lady had informed us she was sure Mr. McDonald's water was above the bridge—but which? We held a council of war, while putting our rods together, and as there is a most likely-looking pool in front of us, but above the lower of the two bridges, decide it must be all right. "But suppose it is not," I suggest, and ask him how a paragraph in the papers would look to the effect that "Mr. Geo. M. Kelson, the well-known salmon angler, and the Editor of the FISHING GAZETTE were brought before the Parkhall magistrates for trespassing in pursuit of game on Lord McTavish's estate"? What can we say if the keeper comes? "Say? Why, say we were told to begin here; besides, the old lady said it was all right." We have a good laugh at the idea of giving old Kitty Brewster, as we called her, as our authority for fishing a splendid salmon pool! K. is soon ready, and as I get into friend Thomas's big waders, who should appear on the scene but the keeper, with his double-barrelled gun under his arm—wonderful the way these fellows will drop from the clouds when you least expect them. "Good morning, sir; nice fresh morning, but rather too cold for fishing, I fear." He turns out to be Mr. McDonald's keeper come to help us with our things, and show us the water. Then Mr. McD. himself appears, and very genial and pleasant we find him. In course of conversation we find Mr. McD. has got a splendid stretch of the Don and about fourteen hundred acres of partridge shooting which he wishes to let, and the marvel is he has not let it. Fancy four rods on four or five miles of the Don, fair shooting, an eight-roomed cottage, the use of a horse and trap and boy, and Mr. McD.'s own services, all for the modest sum of £160 for the whole season!

In spite of the dams, in a heavy water a great many salmon do get up the Don, especially in the autumn, and the trout-fishing is simply superb, the fish running very large, and a 20 lb. or 30 lb. basket being no uncommon take to one rod in a day. "Although I think we can beat you at salmon-fishing, we don't understand trout-fishing as you English anglers do," says Mr. McD. to me as we walk up to the "Burn Mouth" pool. He "is sure any good trout angler would have wonderful sport"; and I can well believe it. The Burn Mouth, where the day before young Mr. Forbes had killed two clean fish, proves a blank to us; as did a pool below where I had waded out among a lot of salmon pits formed by the fish when spawning. Rather a ticklish wade I found it. The pressure of the stream almost forces you down, and the knowledge that any instant I might find myself overhead in wading trousers and with a sprained knee, made me wondrous careful. Acting on Mr. McD.'s advice, we walk up stream about a mile, past splendid trout shallows, to the top of his water on this side. The river makes a sharp curve here between rocky banks, and, after falling over a series of ledges, forms a fine pool, easily fished from the bank. Here I rose and firmly hooked a strong fish. K. and Mr. McD. are some little distance below. I sing out, and as they come hurrying up with the gaff the fish leaps clean out of the water after a rush across the pool. He fights like a clean fish, taking line again and again, and Mr. McD. says it is a likely place for a "fish." The pool is full of big, jagged rocks, necessitating my keeping level with him every time he rushes up stream; indeed, you should, if possible, always keep above your fish. As he comes into the slack water, and shows his big, black tail, our hopes of a clean fish are dispelled, and a big kelt is soon tumbled back again, doubtless wondering why such an awful fright should follow the taking of that pretty "Childers."

As the fish are "sae dour," as the keeper calls it, K. decides to get on to Banchory this afternoon, where I am to join him in the morning. Mr. McD. and I go over the stream up to some lovely water above, but this kelt and one trout which rose at a trout-fly I had put on my cast, and got foul-hooked by the salmon-fly as I struck, was all the sport I had; but I had seen the Don, and been delighted with it, and made up my mind some day to give its trout-fishing a good trial—we were fully a month too early for trout-fishing. At Parkhall Station we heard the sad news of the death of Prince Leopold, almost as soon as it was known in London.

Saturday—our last day. After paying a visit to Mr. Garden, fishing-tackle maker and angler, and inspecting his fine stock of flies, including some most taking-looking "creepers," with glittering bodies and wings tied down at the tail, which, I am sure, would kill trout if fished in A. R. I. E. L.'s "fly-fishing

spinning" style, I took the train along Deeside to Banchory, about twenty miles up stream. I found Major Traherne and K. both in a salmon pool, called the "Moral," playing a kelt. The Major very kindly gave up fishing, and took me up to try the garden pool. He told me he was greatly disappointed with his fishing, having only taken fourteen clean fish the whole spring. His water—I forget the name it goes by—is capital in the autumn, or "back-end," as Scotch anglers generally term it; but in the spring the clean fish run on through it, and, from what the Major said, he certainly will not take it again. At the garden pool I had hardly made three casts before I was into a fish, which plays in such a lively manner we feel sure it is not what it proves to be after ten minutes' fight—a 15 or 16 lb. kelt, which, in order to avoid injuring it with the gaff, the Major "tails," i.e., catches it by the tail very cleverly. I try from the boat, but the catches are down the opposite side, and, as it is "common" land, they have been well thrashed by several anglers from the bank. Then I tried wading, the bottom being large, round pebbles, and the Dee as clear as glass. This is quite pleasant work after the rough bed of the Don. Its crystal clearness is a characteristic of the Dee; you can see to the bottom of all but the deepest pools, and yet the Dee flies are generally dressed very large, the fish being free risers. But in this cold wind and bright sunshine not even the numerous kelts, which are tumbling about, will look at the fly, and it was not a little to the Major's astonishment when taking up his rod again for an almost hopeless try, he hooks and kills a pretty clean-run fish. Kelson, who has worked with his usual care and skill, has not even had a touch. Mr. Farley a gentleman who has the water below Major Traherne's has been more fortunate, having killed over sixty fish, including three to-day. K. is going to stay over Sunday with Major Traherne; and, as I want to catch my train back to Aberdeen, Mrs. Traherne very kindly drives me to the station. There is not a minute to spare, the splendid little pony goes like the wind, but can hardly be a teetotaler from the way she shies at a pump. In the evening I called, with Mr. Bell, on Mr. Fraser, and, intending only to stop a few minutes, stayed some pleasant hours.

Next morning, when the boots knocks at my door, I feel much more like wanting a rest than starting on a five-hundred-mile railway journey home. Mr. Murdoch looks me up after breakfast to show me a little of the "Granite City." I cannot close this sketchy account of our trip without thanking him and the other Scotch friends we met for their many kindnesses; and I am sure both Mr. Kelson and Mr. Thomas will heartily join me in doing so, and acknowledge that the pleasure of our holiday was greatly enhanced by the trouble they took to assist us in every way. If those of my readers who have waded through these lines want further information about the fishing, or flies, &c., I shall be happy to help them as far as I may be able.

R. B. M.

PISCATORIAL SCRAPS.

By I. C. U.

ANGLERS' meetings both in London and the provinces have been far more numerous attended during the past fortnight than is usual in the fence season. The chief cause of this increased interest in the doings of the societies is without doubt to be attributed to the very general anxiety which has been created by the announcement, twice repeated in this paper, that the anglers' cheap tickets were about to be withdrawn by three of the railway companies. Very naturally those poorer men, to whom these concessions mean extra days of pleasure and sport, hoped that I had been misinformed, and the hope was no doubt father to the thought, which said, "There is no foundation for 'I. C. U.'s' statement."

Knowing as I do—aye, as well as any man—that it is impossible to over-estimate the good that these concessions have worked in our manufacturing towns, and that their entire or partial loss would have to be deplored by tens of thousands of toilers 'midst smoke, dirt, and generally unhealthy surroundings, to whom a day's fishing is a priceless pleasure, long anticipated and frugally provided for, it would have been a grievous and unpardonable fault had I, through the columns of the FISHING GAZETTE, which has so large a country circulation, made such an announcement without first being perfectly satisfied that there were facts to justify it.

One of the primary duties of a newspaper is undoubtedly to give the earliest possible information on subjects of interest to its readers, and that duty is in no way lessened by the fact of the news so conveyed being unwelcome to those chiefly concerned.

It's hard to see anything but lack of courage in a man or men who blindly deny for a time facts which he or they more than half suspect to be true. Why should it always be that the first step taken is to deny as publicly as possible that there is a word of truth in it, and then to allow the subject to drop?

Professional Fishing.—I have much pleasure in noticing Mr. Walker's letter, although I am obliged to disagree with some of his facts and all his inferences; but it is none the less a relief to find that he has the courtesy to give me an opportunity to put him right. In the first place, I never said a word which could possibly be stretched, by the most ingenious process, as in any way expressing an opinion about the desirability or otherwise of professional fishing; and, moreover, I never made the slightest comparison of the difference in the degrees of guilt—I don't admit there is any guilt!—between professionals fishing for trout and the same men fishing for coarse fish. Indeed, I will go further, and ask Mr. Walker to quote a sentence, a line, or a word which can fairly be so interpreted. I merely expressed surprise that Mr. Little should have presided at a dinner to celebrate a professional fishermen's match, when he had so recently written the following:—"I would suggest that, as the professional fisherman's aim is to provide sport and pleasure for his patrons, he should give up handling a rod at all." Putting aside the little matter of inconsistency, I quite agree with Mr. Walker when he says, "Who could better be at the head of the table than that well-known and respected angler of Twickenham, Mr. A. J. Little?" However, I am glad to learn that "Head River-keeper Alfred Thompson" will not be allowed to umpire another match, as it is yet a further proof of the utility of these "Scraps."

Let us throw sentiment and sophistry aside and look at the question by the aid of unadorned facts. The fathers of most of these men enjoyed the privilege of eking out the precarious livelihood obtained from anglers, by the laying of night lines and netting the river at will. We have taken from them these ancient privileges, and now some few amongst us have the — well were I a fisherman I should possibly say — impudence to tell us we ought not to handle a rod at all. I ask Messrs. Little and Walker if, in their opinion, the totally inadequate income which the up-river fishermen get from anglers justifies anyone even wishing to impose such terms as those suggested?

Consider, winter is only just over, with its pinchings, and trials, and the fence months are here, the east wind blows, and continues to blow, until customers are as rare as nourishing meals; fishermen see the trout rise, feed, and sport at their doors; they write their patrons in London (I have three such letters before me now), and the reply is "I am busy," or "I cannot stand this wind." Remember east winds will not fill the empty craving stomachs of a man, his wife, or his family, and so remembering, no kind hearted man, as I know Mr. Little to be, will say professional fishermen "should give up handling a rod at all." Anglers have argued, I amongst them, that a few fishermen should not be allowed to net and spoil the sport of thousands; but it is a totally different matter when you suggest that you would also deprive these struggling men of the privileges which you yourself enjoy.

"The Adullamites."—I am able to report, for the satisfaction of the anxious ones, that the new City Society is making such rapid progress towards a complete formation as to more than satisfy the most sanguine among its promoters. It has been decided that the society shall not consist of more than fifty members, and that only such gentlemen as can be introduced proposed, and seconded as *practical anglers*, will be eligible to belong to this limited number. However, the rules will shortly be in print, when I fancy they will be generally deemed to be worthy of careful consideration and, possibly, of close imitation. Item "David,"—I beg pardon, Mr. A. Jardine—is, or was, in the West after trout.

Mr. W. H. Brougham is making his annual appeal to the angling societies for their subscriptions, and I am glad to learn that the Richmond Piscatorial Society not only takes the lead as to amount (five guineas), but also sets a good example by the promptness with which it responds. Their motto is "Give, and give quickly." It is a pleasure to remember that this society's five guineas was last year supplemented by a second vote of three guineas to the netting fund, and I feel sure that should occasion call for it, they will be equally generous this year; indeed, we have an earnest of this in their determination to curtail their expenses in many directions so that their funds may be husbanded for such purposes as preservation. It would be little short of a piscatorial reformation if all societies would only adopt a similar policy.

It is anticipated that the West Central Association's annual meeting, which will be held this evening, will be more important and eventful than any of its predecessors. No one fully conversant with the present critical position of angling interests can doubt for a moment that there is a pressing necessity for our leading association to come still more to the front, and to initiate such a policy as will not only justify, but increase, that widespread confidence which has hitherto been afforded it.

Anglers who are members of societies, and more especially delegates, are fully sensible of the almost universal feeling that at no previous period in the history of this association has there been such great need of the clearest possible evidence that the position of affairs is understood and will be firmly grasped by those who will this day be elected to fill the numerous offices in connection with it.

A successor has to be found to Mr. Leo Bonvoisin, who has been the chairman for some years, and who is retiring from active piscatorial politics that he may the more fully enjoy the felicity of married life. Fortunately, Mr. Tibbatts, the secretary, has somewhat anticipated the difficulty by making it known to all the clubs; this will no doubt have the effect of bringing forward someone equal to the requirements of the position.

I cannot refrain from saying a few words about the marriage of such a prominent man in the angling world as our friend, Mr. Bonvoisin, more especially as I feel sure that what is uppermost in my mind in connection with this event will find an echo in the thoughts of everyone who has the pleasure of that gentleman's acquaintance. He has proved himself a zealous, indefatigable worker and discreet adviser of his association, a true and steadfast friend to all, and a doughty champion of the poorer anglers, by whom he is universally respected. All who know him and read this will wish, with me, that the sunshine of his married life may be seldom clouded, and that the happiness which he will share with "the winsome Devonshire lass, with blue-grey eyes," may be lasting and bear fruit.

I. C. U.

PUBLIC ANGLING RIGHTS ON THE THAMES.

EVIDENCE of an important nature is gradually coming to hand, and we have little doubt that under Mr. Wheeldon's direction a full budget will be brought before the House of Commons. It should be well and fully understood that evidence on the part of either anglers, tourists, or boating men as to any recent encroachments upon privileges hitherto enjoyed is of a valuable character. Such evidence should be sent to Mr. Wheeldon, at full length, and to that gentleman's private address, 64, Peckham Grove, Camberwell, S.E.

CLUB REPORTS.

ANGLERS' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

The following prizes have been generously promised for the coming tournament:—Mr. P. Geen, one guinea; Mr. R. B. Marston, fishing rod, value 21s.; Mr. R. B. Marston, do., do., 21s.; Proprietors of FISHING GAZETTE, framed oleograph (trou), value 10s. 6d.; Do., do. (salmon), do. 8s. 6d.; four books on angling, do., 15s. Any further prizes will be thankfully received and acknowledged by—R. GHURNEY, sec.

BUSY B. ANGLING SOCIETY.

The first meeting of the above society was held last Monday evening at their new club house, Mr. C. Kidner's, Four Acres Tavern, Lorrimer Street, Walworth. All present members attended. A few friends also favoured us with their company. After business was over, several good songs and recitations were given by Messrs. W. Booth, E. Booth, J. Biggs, Barrett, Bailey, and Bodell. A cordial vote of thanks was given to our worthy host for his kindness and attention to our wants. Our next meeting will take place on Monday, 28th inst. A smoking concert will come off shortly, of which due notice will be given.—J. BODELL, hon. sec.

CENTRAL ASSOCIATION OF LONDON ANGLING SOCIETIES.

The annual general meeting will take place on Friday, April 25th, at 9 o'clock. The favour of your attendance will oblige.—J. FIRON, sec.

EXCELSIOR ANGLING SOCIETY.

The annual meeting for the distribution of prizes and supper was held on the 8th inst., at the headquarters of this society, the Hope, St. Mary's Square, Lambeth. Mr. Hayward occupied the chair, and Mr. Hopkins, secretary, was in the vice-chair. Among the supporters were Messrs. Daniel Godfrey, M. E. Stokes, Barnett, Saffrey, W. Whiffen, Dixon, J. E. Pentreath, Saunders, Brown, Bennett, Hayward, jun., Lambert, Watts, Tuddenham, and Hopkins, jun. A varied and excellent repast was served by Host Whiffen in his usual admirable manner, and thoroughly enjoyed. After the usual loyal toasts a vote of condolence with the Duchess of Albany on the death of the late Duke was proposed by Mr. Pentreath, and unanimously carried. The reports of Mr. Hopkins, as secretary, and Messrs. Godfrey and Bennett, as auditors, were received, the latter gentleman testifying to the sound financial position of the

society. The prizes were then distributed, Host Whiffen, as an angler, being well to the fore. The other chief prize-takers were Messrs. Barne't, W. Hayward, Brown, Lambert, Bennett, Hopkins, Saffrey, Pattison, and T. Hayward. Mr. Whiffen eulogised the work of the society, and said it was one of the chief angling clubs in South London. The healths of Mr. and Mrs. Whiffen, Messrs. Hayward and Hopkins were given, and accompanied with musical honours. Recitations by Mr. A. D. Long, and songs by Messrs. Daniel Godfrey, Richardson, Hopkins, and Mlle. Harriett Leoni were given, the last named being especially good, and encored.

GREAT NORTHERN BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

Members are requested to attend a 'special general' meeting on Monday, April 28th. Our Wednesday evening concerts will be continued. Anglers and friends are invited to attend.—J. FITCH, sec.

GREAT YARMOUTH PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

At the weekly meeting of the above society on the 8th inst., which is altered from Monday to Tuesday evening, the chair was taken by Mr Lamb, vice b Mr. Shepherd. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the secretary stated that, in returning thanks to Messrs. Lee and Bonfield, who, as members of the finance committee, had audited the society's books to February 29th, he had great pleasure in stating that the funds in the hands of the treasurer were £54 3s. 6d., being £3 12s. society, and £50 11s. 6d. Defence Fund of Heigham Sounds, more especially as some inquiries were being made as to the position of the society; and at the same time reminding the members that when receiving subscriptions in London for the defence fund he had promised that should the society win their case with costs, those who contributed should also have a vote in the distribution of any funds not required for the Heigham Sounds case, and still cherishing the hope that such will even yet be the case. After business the members present gave way to a thoroughly enjoyable harmonic evening, and after songs, recitations, and music, expressed a hope that many such evenings were in store, hoping that business might always be completed by 9.30, and the remainder spent in the same manner as the one on Tuesday, and thus relieving the everlasting topic—Heigham Sounds. It will also be remembered that our annual day for bottom fishing commences on the 1st of May, and we look forward to a much more successful angling year than the past, having no law case in the foreground, and only one in the background. Two cases of fish viz, bream and perch, were hung up in the club room this week, preserved by the society.—J. LARK, hon. sec.

GRESHAM ANGLING SOCIETY.

The ordinary weekly meeting was held on Tuesday evening at the Masons' Hall Tavern, Masons' Avenue, Basinghall Street, Capt. Alfred in the chair. The minutes were read and confirmed. Dr. Tucker weighed in a very nice trout of 3 lb. 1 oz. Some considerable time was devoted to the consideration of the letter from the Thames Rights Defence Association. The association is desirous of bringing evidence before Mr. Story-Maskelyne's Select Committee to prove that for many years past the public have been in the habit of angling in and using the various parts of the Thames and its backwaters without interruption. Any members who are able to help the association are requested to communicate with the hon. secretary, Mr. J. M. R. Francis, 11, Old Jewry Chambers, E.C. No other business offering, the usual vote of thanks to the chairman was followed by some agreeable musical selections.—H.

HIGHBURY ANGLING SOCIETY.

The distribution of prizes won during the past season will take place among the members at their headquarters, the Plimoli Arms, St. Thomas's Road, Finsbury Park, on Wednesday evening, the 23rd instant, at eight o'clock precisely; and donors are respectfully solicited to forward any outstanding prizes as early as convenient prior to that date. On the following Wednesday evening, the 30th inst., the annual supper will be held in the society's club room, on which occasion Mr. Charles Rose will preside, assisted by Mr. Horwell in the vice chair. The musical arrangements will be under the direction of Mr. Edward Wheatley, and a grand programme night is fully anticipated.—JAS. EDWARD WHEATLEY, secretary.

MAIDENHEAD, COOKHAM, AND BRAY THAMES ANGLING ASSOCIATION.

The tenth annual meeting of the above association will be held at Skindle's Hotel, Maidenhead Bridge, on Saturday, 26th April, at 3 p.m., W. H. Grenfell, Esq., in the chair. The members will afterwards dine together at 5 p.m. Tickets, 13s. 6d. (exclusive of wine), may be obtained of the hon. sec., Mr. W. G. Day, Maidenhead, on or before Wednesday, the 23rd inst.

RICHMOND PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

The weekly meeting of this society took place on Wednesday at the club room, Richmond. A. J. Little, Esq., in the chair. A proposal was submitted by Mr. Dickinson, the vice-chairman, for the purpose of turning in 100 trout below Teddington lock, and the matter stands adjourned till next Wednesday. A circular from the Thames Rights Defence Association was received, and in response several members arranged to endeavour to provide evidence as to the curtailment of public rights above Staines. The National Fish Culture Association applied for the loan of the society's stuffed fish at the forthcoming International Health Exhibition, and the feeling of the members present was in favour of complying with the request. Several additional prizes for specimen fish were presented to the prize fund.

SIR HUGH MYDDELTON ANGLING SOCIETY.

The presentation of prizes took place on Wednesday, April 9th, at the above society, when the following members were the most successful winners: Messrs. G. Rogers, G. Caborn, J. Faller, L. Saccaeville, W. Fowler, J. Sanders, Subitt, W. Duncan. During the evening our late secretary, Mr. G. Caborn, was presented with a handsome silver-mounted inkstand and a medal by the members of this society as a mark of respect and esteem. Mr. G. Grist was also presented with a medal for services rendered to this society, he being a member of the Phoenix Angling Society. The whole of the evening was spent most enjoyably by all present, there being some excellent harmony, the following gentlemen and members contributing to it:—Messrs. Duncan, Subitt, Thomas Grist, Sanders, Marelline, Honfacke, Le Page, Saccaeville, Scotchman, Caborn, Duvall, Loriane, and W. Fowler. During the evening Mr. Subitt sang the "Marsellaise" in French, accompanied by a great number of his friends. Chairman, W. Fowler; vice-chairman, G. Grist.—G. ROGERS, secretary.

SOUTH LONDON UNITED.

The committee of the above met on the 15th inst., and it was decided that a general meeting take place on the 28th, at the Alscot Arms, Alscot Road, Bermondsey. Those societies that are on the present list, and also all angling societies in South London who appreciate unity and sociableness, are requested to send one or two representatives, for the purpose of electing officers, revising visiting list, and transacting business necessary for the coming season.—PIXIE.

STAR AND GARTER ANGLING CLUB.

A special meeting of the above club will be held at the Star and Garter, St. Martin's Lane, on Tuesday evening, the 22nd inst., for the distribution of the prizes, and to transact important business. The annual dinner is fixed for the 30th inst., at the Holborn Restaurant, chairman, Mr. C. Hawkins; vice, Mr. G. Lake. Members and friends desirous of attending can obtain tickets by applying to the chairman.—J. HEWITT, sec.

THE PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

The usual weekly meeting of this society did not take place on Monday last, it being Bank Holiday. It was decided at the previous meeting not to hold any further smoking concerts until late in the summer or early in the coming autumn months. The various competitions were fixed by the committee as follows:—Barbel, 28th July; bream, 18th August; chub, 8th September; roach, 22nd September; Shenonian pike, 13th October; perch, 3rd November. The evenings of these competitions are always of the most pleasant and enjoyable character, especially when good shows of fish are on the tables. The various competitors describe whence the fish came, and their mode of capture, and at a fixed time the winners' names are announced amidst the greatest enthusiasm. This society has now been established nearly fifty years, and on its rolls, both past and present, are inscribed the names of many of the leading men in the piscatorial world, and the tone and character of its present members places it as a leading angling society. From the large number of new members lately elected and new candidates, the season of 1884 is looked upon as being one of unusual promise. Every new member's name has to be submitted and approved by the committee of the society before being put to the ballot.—T. H.

UNITED LONDON ANGLERS.

I am directed by the authorities of the London and South-Western Railway Company to inform all holders of Privilege Cards that the cheap anglers' tickets will be suspended from April 1st during the close time, to June 16th. N.B.—To be reconsidered for the ensuing season.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

WAVENEY ANGLING CLUB

The first ordinary monthly meeting of members of this newly formed club was held at their club-room at the Caxton Arms, on Thursday evening last, April 10. There was a fair attendance of members. The vice-president, W. P. Garrod, Esq., occupied the chair. The secretary gave a very encouraging report as to the prospects of the club. They already numbered between forty and fifty members, and, independent of the amount of money which would be available out of the funds of the club for prizes the president, vice-president, and other gentlemen on the committee had promised to give special prizes to be fished for during the season. It was hoped that friendly matches would also be arranged with the Lowestoft and Oulton, and the Caxton Angling Clubs. A discussion then took place on the relative merits of the tight-line and Nottingham styles of fishing for roach on the River Waveney. At the close of the discussion the opinions of the members present was taken by a show of hands, which resulted in a majority in favour of the tight-line. At the close of the meeting it was hoped that these discussions (which it is intended to bring on at each monthly meeting) will be the means of keeping up a lively interest in angling. This club has been formed with the intention of assisting the Waveney and Oulton Fisheries Protection Society both morally and, as far as it can, financially, in carrying out the work of preservation. At least one-half of each member's subscription is handed over to the Protection Society, and a list of reliable fishermen will be kept by the secretary, to be recommended to gentlemen coming into the town for the purposes of angling.—J. HOOKER, hon. sec.

PROPOSED ANGLING SOCIETY FOR CLAPTON AND NEIGHBOURHOOD.

A few gentlemen, residents of Clapton, Hackney, and surrounding neighbourhoods, being desirous of forming a first-class angling society, have arranged for a meeting to be held at the Swan Hotel, Upper Clapton, on Wednesday evening, the 23rd April next, at eight o'clock precisely, which you are invited to attend. The objects in view are—the renting and preserving suitable waters: meetings at the club house on the first and alternate Wednesday evenings in each month for social intercourse, reports of, and weighings in by members, discussions on angling and kindred subjects, &c. On the last Wednesday evening in each month, after the business is completed to have instrumental and vocal music, recitations, &c., to which members can invite their friends. Prizes will be given for specimen fish, but not for gross weights. There will be no club or other meetings held on Sundays, nor any fish weighed in on that day. The annual subscription will be one guinea. To those joining the society on, or within one month from the meeting on the 23rd instant, no entrance fee will be chargeable; after that date there will be an entrance fee. Honorary members are invited to join (annual subscription, half a guinea), who will be at liberty to attend all the meetings at the club house, but cannot participate in angling competitions, &c. At the meeting on the 23rd inst., a committee will be formed and officers elected, whose positions will be purely honorary. Any gentleman wishing to join the society, and willing to act on the Committee, are requested to write to that effect to the hon. secretary, from whom any further information can be obtained.—HENRY HOWSE, hon. sec., 2, Comberton Road, Upper Clapton, E.

GEORGE JAMES EATON, of Starkholmes, Matlock-Bath, Derbyshire, respectfully invites Noblemen and Gentlemen to try his standard FLIES for the present season. No flies sent or made up but what he himself has proved sure killers. A trial is all that is required, from gentlemen who can fish, to prove whether they may be genuine or not. Patronised by some of the best fishermen of the day. All flies dressed on the best Kendal hooks. Prices: Point Flies, 2s. 6d. per Dozen; Dropper Flies, 2s. per Dozen. Orders punctually attended to.—(ADVT.)

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improved principle. Salmon, 6s. 6d.; Trout, 5s.; smaller do, 3s. 6d.
Silver or Gilt.

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estimation in which they are held by the leading anglers of the day.All Standard Flies ordered, or dressed correct to pattern, will be despatched by return of
post.

N.B.—NO CONNECTION WITH ANY OTHER PERSONS ASSUMING THE SAME NAME.

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TACKLE CASES, ETC., ETC.New and Improved General Tackle. Refined Specialties, adapted to the needs of the
most experienced of living Fishermen, whose requirements have been so successfully met
by us for upwards of Fifty years.The articles described are of the best and most useful make, constructed by Practical
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further their extensive reputation.Re Information.—In lieu of the GIMCRACK TRASH so frequently found in
Trade 'Guides' to the use of angling requisites, plain logical information is
printed, descriptive of the most sterlingly valuable appointments.

FOSTER'S, OF ASHBOURNE,

will forward FREE to all applicants any of the above lists.

The whole—forming the largest list of tackle in print—posted free for Two
Stamps.

"Art, empire, earth itself, to change are doomed."—THE HERMIT.

EXCHANGE.

Things Wanted—to BUY, to SELL, or to EXCHANGE.

N.B.—We take no responsibility whatever in connection with advertisements inserted
in this or other parts of this paper; but beg our readers to expose any case of im-
position. The prices for inserting advertisements in this "EXCHANGE"
Column are 6d. per line for one, or 4d. per line for more than one insertion.
Address Manager, FISHING GAZETTE, 12 and 13, Fetter Lane, London, and send
stamps with the order, or the advertisement cannot be inserted.WANTED.—Particulars and prices of Secondhand Books on Angling and Fish Culture.
Must be in good condition—Address Editor, FISHING GAZETTE, 12 and 13, Fetter Lane,
London, E.C.Splendid Trout Flies, assorted, 8d. per dozen.—J. Palmer, Littleworth, Redditch.
Flies to patterns, or instructions, 8d. per dozen. See Editor's Notice, March 22nd, 1884.
J. Palmer, Littleworth, Redditch.FOR SALE.—Hickory and Cane Salmon Rod, 18ft., 4-joint, and spare top. Large
Bronzed Reel, with 120 yards plaited line, all equal to new, and used only once. Price
for lot £2.—Apply, T. W. H., 15, Finsbury Road, Leeds.

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RIVER REPORTS.

TIME OF HIGH WATER IN THE THAMES.

To find the time of high water in the Thames at any of the following places,
to the time of high water at London Bridge (given below).

	30 minutes for Chelsea.
40	" Putney.
45	" Hammersmith.
50	" Barnes.
55	" Kew.
75	" Richmond.
80	" Twickenham.
85	" Teddington.

Example:—If it is high water at 2 o'clock at London Bridge, it will be high
water at Teddington about 3.25, or eighty-five minutes later; but it must be
remembered that a strong wind accelerates or retards the tide very much.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.

			Morning.	Afternoon.
For Saturday, April 19 ..	7.26	..	7.57	
Sunday, " 20 ..	8.34	..	9.15	
Monday, " 21 ..	9.58	..	10.34	
Tuesday, " 22 ..	11.6	..	11.37	
Wednesday, " 23 ..	12.0	..	12.4	
Thursday, " 24 ..	12.29	..	12.51	
Friday, " 25 ..	1.13	..	1.37	

THE LOWER THAMES.

THAMES TROUTING.

The cold north-easterly winds that have prevailed during the Easter holidays have made trout-fishing very slow work, and the fish do not feed near the surface. There are, however, ample reports of vicissitudes amongst the anglers, and the quotation of a letter from John Johnson, sen., of Kingston, will be sufficient to evidence this. "My son lost a fine trout, with a gentleman, near Kingston Bridge, from 9 to 11 lb. He saw the fish jump out of the water as soon as the tackle broke. For a little amusement he threw a bait into the water, and up comes the trout and takes it within six feet of the boat. I have been out but little—one day, had two trout go over the line and not touch the bait; another time, one came and fairly missed the bait. Mr. Bond, of the Sun Hotel, had a bait taken clean off the hooks." There is another instance, at Shepperton Weir, where Mr. Burrows, of Weybridge, hooked a trout of 5 lb., and, after playing it for some time, was not successful in landing it. The captures this week have been all small fish. First of all, at Sunbury, Mr. Edward Lukyn has taken two fish, one weighing 3½ lb. and the other 3½ lb.; and Mr. Jackson one of 3 lb. At Staines, a gentleman, fishing with Charles Hone, caught one of 3½ lb. Mr. George Rowles, of Egham, in one day, caught five trout, and nothing over 3 lb.; indeed, he returned two of them to the river again. The evidence of so many small trout in the river is an undoubted proof they are increasing in stock; and this increase to a great extent is due to two causes—(1) the abolition of night lines, and (2) the hatching of fish by Mr. James Forbes, at Chertsey, and the rearing of them in the Sunbury watercourse, by Mr. Thomas Spreckley. At the present time the stock of young fry in the Fish House at Chertsey Bridge are in a healthy and active state, and the large fish are the pictures of health and beauty.

UPPER THAMES.

The river is toning down into a pretty colour and condition for trout work, but the wind is a biting East-Nor'-East, and enough to frighten any ordinary mortal out of a punt, or from the surroundings of a draughty boiling weir. At Tilehurst the remains of a 20 lb. pike have been recently picked up—all the best portions of the fish being minus—thus clearly demonstrating the work of otters, for they are not only arant poachers but thorough epicures. I wish no harm to Sir—Nelson beyond a visit of those vermin to any favourite trout-stream of his, and then I opine he would not be so "eat up" with those *beasties*. At Sonning a grand trout of 8 lb. has been taken by the host of the Bull Inn (it was evidently a bull trout), and another of 4 lb. by a local gentleman fishing with Clark. The 8-pounder was taken spinning in still water, and after the immediate disturbance of a passing steamer. This will be nuts for the owners of launches, but I trust they will apply the soothing unction to their bearings, and go a little easy when in future passing—MARLOW BUZZ.

P.S.—Several small fish have been taken at Hambleden, Marlow, and Maidenhead, but sunshine is required for good fish and sport.

Wraybury.

Water slightly coloured and very cold; not likely that any number of trout will be taken until warmer. Have only heard of two, 2½ lb. each, taken at Windsor.

Ancholme District.

The weather for angling during the Easter holidays has been very unfavourable, and so far as reported, the results have been very bad. Some gentlemen visited the Riverhead on Good Friday, from Grimsby, but I was not able to learn result. However, to judge by sport on the following day, I should think

they did very badly. I met these gentlemen there on Saturday, and our total catch was one trout, one eel, and one perch. Not a fin seemed to be moving. The water was rather discoloured and the temperature low. On Monday three gentlemen from Lincoln had fair sport in the early part of the day, catching about twenty nice perch, but the fish went off the feed before noon. They used caddis bait. The weather was showery and with cold north-east wind. To judge by results hereabouts, I think the Easter angling will be a disappointment.—THOMAS FORD, Cais'or.

Ballynahinch.

Still continual cold east wind and water low, which is very much against angling here. The following are the takes for the week:—On the 2nd inst., Mr. R. Macredy, one salmon, 12 lb.; on the 3rd, Mr. Dudgeon, two, 12 and 13 lb.; on the 4th, Mr. R. H. Beresford, one, 12 lb.; on the 5th, Mr. A. Agg Gardner, one, 12 lb.; Mr. A. Dudgeon, one, 12 lb., and we got one 19 lb.; on the 7th Mr. A. Dudgeon got one, 15 lb.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

Angling has improved a little on the above these last few days. Mr. A. Dudgeon, on the 9th inst., killed one salmon, 14 lb., on the 11th, one, 11 lb.; and on the 12th, one 13 lb. Mr. G. Sutherland on the 11th, one 12 lb., and on the 12th, one, 13½ lb. Waters are still very low, and we require a thorough good spate before the fishing improves much.—WALTER BLACKADDER.

Blackwater (Mallow).

On the 4th inst.—Mr. Philips, a new fish, 12 lb.; Richard Willis, one, 10 lb.; Mr. Jeremiah Lane, of Gurleenbagh, two new fish, 14 lb. and 10 lb.; Mr. Brooke Brazier, one, 17½ lb.; Mr. Jeremiah Hunt, two, 10 lb. and 12 lb.; Mr. Robert Perry, one, 11 lb.; Mr. Hamilton Stubben, of Queen's County, on the Carrig Waters, two, 12 lb. each; Colonel Hutton, three new fish, on the Carrig Waters; Mr. Charles Murphy, three during the week, 8 lb., 12 lb. and 14 lb., at Ballygriffis; Captain Digby, on Moycollop Waters, four on Tuesday, the 8th inst., one 17 lb., two 13 lb. each, and one 12 lb.; Major Davies, three, 11 lb., 14 lb., and 16 lb. On the 9th—John Curin, two, 15 lb. and 21 lb.—J. O. HAROLD.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

Bure (Norwich).

The holidays have not yielded to the piscator the amount of enjoyment that on some occasions has been experienced. These Easter holidays are noted for being remarkably fickle in the weather; some years it seems as if summer had already arrived, and at other times they are held in the mid-winter, snow, sleet, and the piercing east wind all combining to daunt the ardent lover of the rod and line. A number of anglers have tried their luck with varying success, but only in very few instances do I hear of good catches. The roach are now taking the gentle pretty freely. On Saturday last my friend and myself journeyed to South Walsham and fished near St. Benet's Abbey. We caught any number of small fish, and almost every description, but not more than 40 or 50 worth keeping. The day was anything but comfortable, as it rained from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. in torrents, which not only spoiled our comfort, but also made one feel less active in pursuit of one's recreation. The fish taken were all full of spawn, and I fancy we may reasonably look for an early season this year, as everything has been conducive to that. By the middle of June, or the latter part, I expect good sport will commence. The wind to-day (Wednesday) is simply cruel, cutting one through. It seems wonderful that Kingsley could ever have lived an East wind.—ROBERT MOLL.

Coln (Wraysbury).

In my notes last week I expressed surprise that no one had been down to try the "mill pool," close to the railway station, and also that I expected to see a few 6 or 7 pounders before long. A gentleman fishing here on Saturday, the 5th inst., landed one beauty, 8 lb., after a splendid fight. Yesterday (Wednesday), another of 2½ lb. A beauty of about 5 lb. came right upon the Apron after a dace which he managed to capture. It is only a small piece of water, and requires very careful fishing. I am sure there are several heavy fish lying under the wall in the deepest part. You can hear them rolling about after dusk making a noise like boys bathing. Well-soured lobs appear to be the only bait they care for. I certainly do not like the idea of taking trout with worms; but when no other bait will entice them, what's to be done?—ROACH.

Coquet (Weldon Bridge).

The weather was all that could be desired for the holidays, Friday being like a day in June. On the 10th, Mr. R. Ferguson creeled 5 lb. of trout; Mr. Elliot, 2 lb.; Mr. Hilton, 6 lb. On the 11th, Mr. Swinney 5½ lb.; Mr. Hedley, 4 lb.; Mr. Hagg, 3½ lb.; Mr. Ainsby, 2½ lb.; Mr. Cole, 7½ brace; Mr. Elliot, 4½ brace; Mr. Ferguson, 8 brace; Mr. Dixon, 5½ brace. On the 12th Mr. Elliot, 5½ brace; one salmon 2½ lb.; Mr. R. Ferguson 6½ brace; Mr. Dixon 3 brace. On the 14th, Mr. R. Nicholson, 4½ lb.; Mr. Dixon 3 lb.; Mr. Gallon, 5 lb.; Mr. Elliot, 4 brace; Mr. R. Ferguson, 3½ brace. On the 15th, Mr. Elliot, 4 brace; Mr. Ferguson, 4 brace; Mr. W. Leighton, 15 lb. of trout, all with the oak fly—largest trout, 1 lb. weight. On the 16th, Mr. R. Ferguson, 5½ brace.—A. GLASS.

The Dee.

With a new month there have been a few changes of gentlemen in the various boats up country, and some of the new comers have begun auspiciously. On the aggregate, however, sport has not been good. The river rose and fell a good deal during the week, though that doubtless encouraged a number of intrepid fish to take the fresh water, which, had it remained low, would not likely have been the case—it operated otherwise against the anglers' totals. In an unsettled water good, general sport is never obtained. A number of the fish are now "potted," and good sport in using the natural minnow was obtained in some quarters. Flies, now that the weather is getting more genial, are lesser in size—that is, the better killing ones. Jock Scott, Butcher, and Black Doctor are in requisition—No. 2 being about the size. The "Pitfour," if the water runs low, should kill well. We are to try it in a day or two. The net fishing results, as can be imagined, have been very irregular of late, some days good sport being obtained, some days the very opposite. Since Monday of this week only 3 fish have been got at the "Pot and Fords," the best shot on the river. Dee reports to hand appended:—Blairs Water.—Mr. Mercer, Monday, 1 fish, 9 lb.; Tuesday, 2 fish, 10 and 13 lb.; Wednesday, 1 fish, 9 lb.; Friday, 2 fish, 8 and 14 lb. Kingcausie.—Archer Irvine Fortescue, Esq., 2 fish, 8 and 10 lb. Lower Durris Water.—Dr. McDonald and party are frequently enjoying good sport. Drum.—A. Muirhead Aitken, Esq., London, Monday, 7th, 1 fish, 10 lb. Park.—Riddell, keeper, Thursday, 1 fish, 8 lb.; Friday, 1 fish, 8 lb. Crathes and Kinestie.—A. Grimbale, Esq., Tuesday, 1 fish, 10 lb.; Thursday, 1 fish, 8½ lb.; Wednesday, 3 fish, 7, 9½ and 10 lb.; Friday, 1 fish, 10½ lb.; Monday, 7th, 4 fish, 8, 9, 9½ and 14 lb. H. Parker, Esq., Tuesday,

1 fish, 5 lb.; Wednesday, 2 fish 9½ lb. each. E. B. Smith, Wednesday, 1 fish, 9½ lb. Blackhall.—B. Warwick, Esq., London, Tuesday, 3 fish, 8 to 10 lb.; Thursday, 2 fish, 7 and 8½ lb.; Friday, 1 fish, 9 lb. Cairnton.—Monday, T. Farley, Esq., 1 fish, 8 lb.; Tuesday, 1 fish, 9 lb.; Thursday, 3 fish, 8 to 12 lb.; Friday, 1 fish, 10 lb. On the Woodend Water, Major Traherne, Corsee House, Banchory, had three fish during the week, 7, 8, and 14 lb. We regret our Aboyne report has not reached us in time this week. The Aberdeen Journal records the following takes in that locality:—Aboyne Castle Water.—Lord Granville Gordon, 3 fish, 9 lb. each. Huntly Lodge Water.—J. Wasson, Esq., Friday, 1 fish, 10 lb. Huntly Arms Hotel Water.—Colonel Telford, Tuesday, 1 fish, 9 lb.; Thursday, 1 fish, 7 lb.; Friday, 2 fish, 9 and 10 lb. Colonel Egerton, Tuesday, 1 fish, 9 lb. Herbert Greil, Esq., Wednesday, 1 fish, 9½ lb.; Friday, 1 fish, 8 lb. Digby Cayley, Esq., Tuesday, 1 fish 9½ lb.; Wednesday, 3 fish, 8, 8½, and 11½ lb.; Thursday, 1 fish, 8 lb.; Friday, 2 fish, 8 and 9 lb.; Saturday, 3 fish, 6, 7, and 8 lb. On Crathes water and in the Aboyne district the natural minnow has been used a good deal.

Report of Messrs. William Blacklaws and Sons, rod and fishing tackle makers, Kincardine O'Neil:—Carlogie:—Dr. Hobson Tuesday, 1 fish, 9 lb.; Wednesday, 1 fish, 11 lb.; J. Scott, keeper, Monday, 1 fish, 9 lb. Ballogie.—Honourable David Arbuthnot, Tuesday, 2 fish, 9½ and 10½ lb.; Wednesday, 1 fish, 9 lb.; Thursday, 1 fish, 9 lb. Honourable William Arbuthnot, Tuesday, 1 fish, 7½ lb. G. Craven, sen., 1 fish, 16 lb. Norton House Water.—Wm. Lamond, Esq., Monday, 1 fish, 8½ lb.; Thursday, 1 fish, 15 lb. Community.—J. Mortimer, keeper, Ballogie, Thursday, 2 fish, 9 and 11 lb. Desswood.—Admiral Farquhar, Saturday, 1 fish, 10 lb. J. Harper, Friday, 1 fish, 8½ lb.; Butcher, Jock Scott, Dusty Miller, and other fancies pretty similar—1½ to 2 inches—doing well. The Glentanar Party—Wm. Cunliffe Brooks, Esq.—are having splendid sport, as is usual. A few fish are also being got at Braemar and about Balmoral.

Report of Geo. Smith, Esq., Ballater:—Monaltrie.—F. Pickop, Esq., Monday, 2 fish, 9 and 10 lb.; Tuesday, 4 fish, 8 to 12 lb.; Wednesday, 2 fish, 9½ and 10 lb.; Thursday, 2 fish, 7½ and 8½ lb.; Friday, 2 fish, 8½ and 9½ lb.; Saturday, 1 fish, 9 lb. T. G. Seymour, Esq., Tuesday, 2 fish, 7½ and 8 lb.; Thursday, 3 fish, 7½, 9, and 13 lb.; Friday, 1 fish, 9 lb.; Saturday, 1 fish, 9½ lb. Pannanich Water.—T. Grant, Thursday, 1 fish, 18 lb. Invercauld Arms Hotel Water.—E. L. Brandith, Esq., Tuesday, 1 fish, 9 lb.; Wednesday, 1 fish, 10 lb.; Thursday, 1 fish, 9 lb.; Friday, 2 fish, 6 and 7 lb.; Saturday, 1 fish, 11 lb. John Ferguson, Esq., Saturday, 3 fish, 7, 8, and 20½ lb. A. MacGregor, jun., Esq., Monday, 7th, 2 fish, 6 and 7 lb. Cambus O'May.—F. Broadhurst, Esq., Monday, 4 fish; Tuesday, 5 fish; Wednesday, 2 fish; Saturday, 2 fish—all ranging from 7 to 16 lb. Captain Michell, Thursday, 3 fish, 7 to 12 lb. As can be seen, the upper reaches are much more productive than the lower at present, and were it not that they are more easily affected by the weather or rainfall, grand sport would be got on them, as the pools are abundantly stocked with small salmon. We have been shown some of Mr. Smith's patterns that have done excellent service. Weather, at time of dispatch, fine and clear. River in beautiful fishing order, but gradually getting smaller. Wind S.S.E.—W. M.

Eden (Armathwaite).

This last week has not been so good; fewer salmon have been got. On Saturday, Sergeant Fox got one fifteen pounds; same day, J. B. Sater, one. On Monday Colonel Sharp got one, eighteen pounds, at Syke Foot. Same day, William Stephenson took one at Quarry Corner, seven een pounds. Trout have not been taking well this week; on Monday Mr. Webster got eight fine ones, and a few gentlemen are out to-day, so we may hope to have a better account next week.—SKIDDAW.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

Eden (Carlisle).

As so often is the case, the Easter holidays, to which so many anglers look forward, are beginning with bright weather and an east wind. The river is also very fine, so the breed will not be spoiled this journey. On Saturday, the 5th inst., Mr. Slater killed a fish of 13 lb. and a nice dish of trout, and Sergeant Fox had one of 12 lb. Monday, 7th, Col. Blacketh landed a ten-pounder at Crosby; Col. Sharp, one, 18 lb., at Syke Foot, and Mr. R. H. Horrocks one at the same place. George Leach had also one in the Association water, and Stevenson, keeper at Corby Castle, killed one, 16 lb. Some other fish were killed, but I cannot ascertain any particulars. The disease is certainly not so bad as it was last spring. The bailiffs declare that many fish are recovering from it, and this statement seems partly borne out by the fact that many of those caught with the rod are touched with disease about the head, which is a pretty good proof that they have not the same amount of visitation which they suffer from when the disease is developing. The trout have been much less affected this season. The bailiffs have only seen about a dozen since Christmas in the whole district. Let us hope that we have seen the worst of this pest.—SILVER GREY.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

Exe and Barle (Dulverton).

Water clear, sun bright, wind easterly; we want rain to make the fishing really good. Trout have lately taken the willow bud, olive dun, blue upright, and hare's flax upright. Rods are now plentiful on the rivers.—C. W. NELDER.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

Exe (Exeter).

The north east wind prevailing during Easter week has materially interfered with anglers, and their creels have not been heavy burdens to them. A few trout have been taken, and I had nine near Norton last week, fishing with branding on a "Gossamer" gut, which I call the cobweb, and it is available for use with good results when other fine lines fail. Wind still eastward, and piscators are waiting for a welcome change.—J. A. KELLEY.

Exe (Tiverton).

The river is low and clear, and very few fish are being taken. Good Friday is looked upon here as a great fishing day. A large number of anglers were out, and did little or nothing, the day being so bright. Since then the wind has been in the north-east, and fish have not sported well. Rain is wanted to move the water, then some good sport is looked forward to.—WM. MUDFORD.

Lakes of Killarney.

Weather very fine here at present, and a good deal of N.E. wind, more than the anglers like. On the 9th of April, Mr. D. C. Coltsman got 70 trout, on Lacca Lake, the largest, 2 lb.; Captain Bloyed, on the Lower Lake, got 32 brown trout; Lieutenant Roberts, 28 brown trout; Pat Robert, two salmon,

23 lb.; Mr. John Clifton, one salmon, 20 lb.; Tim McCarthy, one salmon, 15 lb.; Tom Ellet, two salmon 23 lb.; Dan Courneane, two salmon, 24 lb. On the 10th, John Connel, one 12 lb.; Dan Courneane, two salmon, 23 lb. Next day, two salmon, 24 lb. On the 11th, Tim McCarthy, two salmon, 24 lb.; Michael Glessane, one 13 lb.; Mr. John Clifton, one 12 lb. On the 13th, Tom Ellet, two salmon, 20 lb.; Jerry Doyal, one salmon, 14 lb.; Dan Courneane, one salmon, 11 lb. On the 15th, Tim Courneane, one 12 lb.; Captain Bloyed, 28 trout; Lieutenant Roberts, 22 trout; Mr. Pike, 3½ dozen trout; Mr. F. McDonough, 2 dozen trout. On the 16th, Dan Courneane, one salmon, 11 lb.; H. R. O'Kearny, 2 salmon; Tim McCarthy, 2 salmon, 23 lb.; John Robert, one 13 lb.; John Connel, one 12 lb.; John Downing, one 12 lb.; Daniel O'Donough, one 13 lb.—TIM MCCARTHY.

Lea (Waltham Abbey).

The chub fishing in the Abbey stream has been very good this last fortnight. Mr. Mills, of the Act on the Square Society, has taken in three days nine fish, the largest 3½ lb.; Mr. George, one fish, on Saturday, 4 lb., very handsome, Mr. Chapman, one very nice fish; Mr. Bates, of the Good Intent, one on Monday, 4 lb. 1½ oz. A very nice fish—a very fine jack—has been taken out of the water dead, measuring 37 in., injured in the back, apparently done with one of the boats or a hatcher; but very full of spawn, and in fine condition. The perch in the hatching boxes in the garden here y and well, and going on very favourably up to the present time.—PENCIL.

Lee (Co. Cork).

The experiences of the past fortnight prove that the rivers Lee and Blackwater are well stocked with salmon. In fact, I might go far her, and say that all Irish rivers have shown a remarkable increase in the supply of salmon. This brings me to the question of the Irish Fisheries Bill. It is proposed in this measure to reduce by twelve hours the period prescribed by law for the weekly close season. It is also proposed to legalise half-tram nets, a species of net which can be used as a fixed engine at pleasure, and which may be set up by the owner of any foreshore, within, of course, certain limitations. A more dangerous measure, or one more calculated to injure the salmon fisheries of Ireland, was never before attempted to be introduced. It proposes, in a word, to substitute for the old bag net proprietors, who were swept away by the Act of 1862, and many of whom were ruined by that drastic measure, a new set of owners who will come in to reap the harvest that has been sown by others at great expense and with constant care. We do not think Parliament will ever sanction such a proposal. Even the net fishermen, who have made salmon fishing a calling, have taken serious alarm at No. 6 Clause—the one which relates to the half-tram nets—and in a series of resolutions which they have adopted in committee, they point out that if such a clause is passed into law, they may immediately take tickets for the workhouse. If these men feel so apprehensive of the effects of the measure should it be passed into law, how can we describe the feelings of the riparian proprietors and anglers? We do not think that either one or the other will be consulted as regards their individual or collective interests. But there is a deeper question involved. Salmon has become an important factor in our food supplies. The fisheries are admittedly in a prosperous and healthy state; and will it be prudent to interfere with a system which has proved so successful hitherto, and has afforded such an abundant yield of good fish to our markets? We are more concerned in what provides legitimate and rational sport, and we submit that anglers ought to have some voice in this matter. It is mainly through the preservation pursued by the fishery conservators and riparian proprietors that the stock of breeding fish is maintained. If they do not get a reasonable proportion of salmon for angling purposes they will naturally say, "What interest have we in preserving the river for the benefit of others?" Preservation will relax, and the traditional goose with the golden eggs will be destroyed in the competition and poaching that will follow. The angling during the past fortnight has been all that the most sanguine angler could desire. Seven spring salmon in one day to one rod is a formidable bag, yet that number was exceeded. Mr. Mat Manning took seven on Sunday week, and during last week his brother, on one day, landed nine. Mr. Barton, in three days, took fifteen; Mr. Fitzgibbon, in one day, five; Mr. Minhear, four, averaging 7 lb.—a smaller average than usual; Sir Augustus Warren took several for the fortnight; Mr. Haynes had five to his credit on two days; Mr. M. F. Barry landed three on Saturday last, and several more; Captain Vansittart had three last week, and more since then; General Bowles, two; Mr. Bowen, three; Mr. Persie Macrom, four. The spring weather has now set in. The Easter holidays promise to be fine, and on Good Friday there will be a large increase of anglers to the banks.—ANGLER.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

Lugg and Arrow.

Both of these streams are now in splendid order for the fly, being clear and rather low at present. They both have been well visited this week, being holiday time, and the fish are taking the stone fly and blue dun freely. There were several visitors to these streams on Good Friday, and some very good trout were taken with the blue dun. In the Arrow, on Saturday, a gentleman landed a nice lot of fish with the fly. A few fish were taken in the Lugg with the fly the same day. Monday being Bank Holiday, there were plenty of anglers to be seen by the water side; some very good fish were taken in the Arrow with the fly, some scaling ½ lb. each. The fishing in the Lugg was not so successful on Monday as in the Arrow, the Arrow at present being the best fishing stream of the two. On Tuesday the water was tried with the stone fly, and some very good fish were landed. There have been a few nice fish taken in the Bodenham waters this week with the fly. A few nice trout were taken in the Ivington district on Monday. The Pinsley is in good order, and several lots of trout have been taken in it this week with the fly. Some few trout have been landed in the Shobden part this week. There is at present every prospect of some very good fishing in this part, as the weather looks inclined to keep fine.—GWYNNE.

Severn (Shrewsbury).

Since my last report, we have had a good deal of rain, which discoloured the river and caused it to rise some couple of feet. It is, however, now getting into good condition again, and by Easter Monday fly fishers will be able to indulge in their favourite pastime again. On Thursday, notwithstanding that the river was rising, and was quite thick, Mr. Alfred Ellis caught, on the Cotton Hill ford, with a fly, a fine trout of about a pound. On Saturday morning a young fellow, while spinning from Lowe's wall, hooked a very fine trout, which was estimated by several anglers who were looking on at from 2½ lb. to 3 lb. This young angler, however, was evidently overmatched by such a fish, as, after having played the fish fairly well, illustrated his want of knowledge in the art by trying to lift the fish up a 16-foot wall by the line; of course he lost the fish. On Tuesday a member of the angling society, after

losing a couple of good fish, landed a good trout of 1 lb. 1 oz. from the same place, but instead of trying to lift it up the wall, got a friend to land it into a boat. On Wednesday another member of the angling society caught two very good fish with the minnow. Myself and several other members were out, at Lilaymynech, but we had very indifferent sport, the river being at least a foot too high, although, as far as colour was concerned, nothing could have been wished for. One of the party managed to take two nice trout, and another took one; and I, also, after a good deal of hard work, took one. On the Verniew, as well as the Severn, the Granam and yellow-bodied March brown seem to be the favourite flies. A friend and I had a very decent day's sport in some private water on Monday. Rain fell during the early part of the day, and the water was thicker than it ought to have been. With one of Mr. Henry Shaw's fancy claret-coloured bus flies and a yellow-bodied March brown I landed eight very good fish, three of which were nearly 1 lb. apiece—the other five averaging over ½ lb. My friend, who does not fish up-stream, only managed to grass five, all of which were under ½ lb. Anglers are arriving from all parts, and Easter promises to be a busy time.—SEVERN SALMON.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

Taw (N. Devon).

Many fresh run salmon have been killed, and to those who may have fished this river in years gone by it may appear strange, but it is a certain fact: I can authenticate twenty, and many more hooked. The minnow has been the most taking, and the number of fish seen leaping over the weirs tell plainly there are many to be still killed, and when the water rises some really good fishing will be got. Trout fishing has been checked because of the cold wind, and although many fishermen have been by the water, not heavier baskets than 1½ dozen have been taken—flies killing, blue upright and rusty blue with silver twist.—RUSTY GAME.

Teme (Ludlow).

Anglers this week have been able to follow their favourite sport with average luck, though the wind has remained in the North, and the frost has been sharp for two or three nights, nipping off the top of the early potato plants along the valleys of the Corve and the Teme. Several flies are on the waters, which are clear and in their natural state. The principal flies are the blue dun, the March brown, and the marlow buzz. The stone fly is now on, but is principally useful for those streams that have a rapid flow of water and not too wide. We saw about 7 lb. of fine trout which were caught on Saturday afternoon with the latter fly. On Monday a gentleman landed a nice lot of trout from the Teme with the marlow buzz. A gentleman from Kingston (Mr. T. B.) landed some nice trout on Tuesday afternoon. Two gentlemen in the Clun caught on Monday and Tuesday some 8 lb. each of very fine trout with marlow buzz and March brown. A few trout have been caught in the Corve with the blue dun. On Tuesday large numbers visited the Teme and its tributaries, it being Bank Holiday (in lieu of Monday, that being market and fair day); but the anglers, as a rule, met with indifferent success, which we much regret, many of them getting but few opportunities of a day's fishing, though located on the borders of so many splendid trout streams. The Leintwardine Club are doing nothing yet. There has been no fish landed from the Ledwyche that we hear of.—S. LUDLOW.

Teme (Tenbury).

The anglers of this district could not wish for better weather for fishing than has been had this last week, and the water, it being in splendid order for the fly, has been visited freely the last few days. The fish are to be seen sporting freely at the blue dun and marlow buzz. Friday being Good Friday, there were but few anglers to be seen by the water side. Some young men living near Tenbury, and having a small stream running through their ground, turned the water off on to the meadows, and caught some three dozen very fine trout, in splendid condition. A gent tried the water on Saturday, and landed a nice lot of trout with the blue dun. On Monday the water was pretty thick with the marlow buzz, and a nice dish of fine trout were landed. Some gents visited the water near Little Hereford with the fly, and caught a very good lot of trout, some weighing over 1 lb. each. The water was tried on Tuesday, but with very poor sport, as the wind being rather high it was with difficulty the line was kept out of the bushes. The Kyre is in very good fishing order, but there have been but few visitors to it this week. A few nice trout have been taken in the Rea with the fly. The Ledwyche is in good order for fishing, but rather low at present, and little doing in it.—WORCESTER.

The Test.

Fishing so far has been very poor, owing to the continued east wind and great scarcity of fly; some days it comes up at nine o'clock and is all over by ten, and not a fish moves after that hour. Sir M. Gordon had a great day on the Priory Water, Wherwell, on the 6th: he caught in a very short time forty-two fish, all with the dry fly. Another gentleman on Good Friday had eleven nice fish on the Barnsbury Water. They are in capital condition, and seem to be very abundant.—HAMPSHIRE.

Torridge (Torrington).

River is in fine order for fishing, quantities of trout have been taken this week with the fly. The most taking flies have been the various red and rusty palmers, little marlands, blue duns, and March browns. Four salmon have been taken this week, two of them yesterday. The weather is delightful.—PRACTICAL ANGLER.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

River in prime condition for fly fishing; lots of trout were taken yesterday, and two salmon near the town, one of them in the free water, and one was taken in the free water on Monday, 17 lb. Cold easterly wind at present; when it changes we shall have good sport.—PRACTICAL ANGLER.

Torridge (Woodford Bridge).

River in capital order this week. A good many fine trout have been taken. Major Deane had a good day's sport on Monday, three dozen excellent fish. A gentleman also took thirty on Tuesday. The Rev. F. Besley had a good day's sport on Wednesday, with a friend of his, in the Upper Torridge. Trout plentiful, and in splendid condition; two gentlemen from Cornwall took thirty-nine yesterday (Thursday), one weighing 1½ lb. Good sport also on the river Waldon.—JOHN BLAKE.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

Trent (Nottingham).

There have not been quite so many salmon killed this week, but it is evident there is any quantity of fish in the river, especially at Shardlow and Weston. The subscribers here are weekly growing more numerous, and those hailing from Derby have eclipsed all previous efforts. Mr. Wilkinson, alone, has killed ten very heavy fish, his last being one of 19 lb. On Tuesday he let escape one

estimated at 40 lb. Another Derby subscriber got one on the 5th, of 24½ lb.; and, on Thursday, I saw Mr. H. Bulmer, of the same town, land one of 22½ lb. The fish "picked" immediately under my own rod, and, on asking Mr. Bulmer to send his "phantom" over him, he succeeded in getting him the third or fourth throw. Mr. Wood missed a very large one below King's Mills weirs, but already in the week he had registered a couple. It was thought the recent rise would produce better results at Willington, but, so far as I am aware, the sport has been tame. Three of our best anglers were out there on Thursday, but failed to stir a fish. On Wednesday evening the members of the St. George's Association, Nottingham, held their annual business meeting, when a large number of special prizes were promised for the Summer club. On the following night the Wellingtonians celebrated their annual gathering.—THE MAN AT THE CLUBS.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

The early part of the week was attended with drizzling showers which made angling anything but enjoyable. Salmon-fishermen, however, mustered in considerable force, especially at Shardlow, Weston, and Willington, and some very heavy fish were bagged. There seems any quantity of fish in the Shardlow Reach, and since my last report Mr. J. Stanley, of Derby, has caught one of 29½ lb., Mr. Wyeman, on the previous day, topping this weight with a beauty of 30 lb. Mr. Heaton and friend had each one of 22 lb. Four subscribers from Derby had one each, and Mr. J. Walker, of Shardlow, caught one of 17½ lb. On the same day, Mr. Swindle, of Chellaston, took one from the Ferry, at King's Mills, of 19½ lb.; and in the weir swim above Mr. Horsley, of Melbourne, landed a magnificent trout of 9½ lb. Three fish, two by Mr. Ray and the third by Mr. Martin, were taken on Monday at Willington, and several big 'uns were again forthcoming from Shardlow. On Tuesday the nets were used, with the result that only one fellow succumbed. On Wednesday, Mr. Fulmer, of Derby, took whilst spinning a very handsome fish of 15½ lb., and Mr. Carwright had one in the teens. More fish were killed on Thursday, when the river was in really splendid condition.—THE MAN AT THE CLUBS.

Urk

The river has been in capital order this week. The freshets of the last week have brought up a good number of new fish. On Tuesday, the 8th inst. Mr. Pitman took one, weighing 12 lb.; Mr. Wrightson, one, 11 lb.; Lord Aberdare, one, 12 lb. On Wednesday Col. Cameron landed one, 14 lb.; Mr. Lane, one, 12 lb.; Mr. Brighwell, one, 14 lb.; and Mr. G. Crawford Broke, one, 19 lb. This (Thursday) morning Mr. G. C. Browne landed a splendid fish, weighing 22 lb. Some excellent baskets of trout have been also taken, and several salmon in the upper water have been landed.—ARGUS.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

The weather during the week has not been at all favourable for anglers, a keen north-easterly wind has prevailed, and the water is low and clear; but notwithstanding these adverse circumstances a few fish have been landed. On Thursday, Mr. Carew Daniel caught one 18 lb., Mr. Malcolm O'Neil on Saturday landed one 13 lb., and General Barnard, a 22-pounder. On Monday Col. Cameron took one 12 lb. and on the following day took another 10 lb. and Mr. Daniel one 20 lb. At the time of writing a few drops of rain are falling, and there are indications of a change in the weather. A little rain would be very acceptable, for the clouds of dust are disagreeable and a good soaking, with a rise of water, would ensure an abundant harvest to the angler in this river.—ARGUS.

Thursday Malcolm McNeil, one 19 lb., General Barnard, two 19 lb. and 11 lb.

Waveney (Beccles).

Weather during the holidays was exceptionally cold, nevertheless many anglers availed themselves of the opportunity and betook themselves to their favourite sport, many of them for the first time this season. As the close season does not extend to the Norfolk and Suffolk rivers and broads, anglers feel perfectly free to fish at this time. Pike have already begun to spawn, and I am pleased to note that very many anglers have given up this branch of sport for a time. Roach, perch, and rudd have not yet commenced, and are not likely to for another three weeks or a month, and numbers might be found on Friday, Saturday, and Monday endeavouring with all kinds of lines to capture this class of fish, and especially roach. Friday seems to have been a very poor day, nothing of any account coming to my knowledge, but Saturday was generally a good day and some nice baskets of fish were taken. Notably, that of Mr. C. Chase, a splendid basket of roach, all fine fish and in good condition affording capital sport and caught up river. Mr. Bloomfield also had a fair catch. Messrs. J. Hooker and C. Metcalfe, fishing near Worlingham, a fair sample, running rather small throughout the day. Allow me to repeat that good fishing (in fact the best at this time of the year) is to be had up river, as may be seen from above report, and the writer is confident from last Saturday's experience, fishing, that there are some fine fish about. Water in good condition; but wind very unfavourable, a strong north-east wind prevailing.—A WAVENEY ANGLER.

Wharfe (Yorkshire).

Easter—that most popular holiday for anglers—is now a thing of the past, and I fear that very few good catches will be chronicled in their respective diaries. Good Friday was a splendid day, but since then the wind has been in the north-east quarter, accompanied by drizzling rain. I have not heard of any baskets being taken worthy of note, and until the wind changes and there is a good flood there will be very little doing. Water—hen, bloa, March brown, and the early brown are all upon the water, but not to any extent. The fish that have been killed this Easter have been taken with worm.—FRANCIS M. WALBRAN.

Yare (Norwich).

Sport on this stream has been only very moderate; cold weather has prevented many from venturing out, but those who have persevered have been rewarded with some good roach, both at Brundall and Buckenham. Of course, the next few weeks will be slow, as the fish will soon begin to start for the broads and shallows, and anglers may then be content to sit and enjoy nature and smoke the pipe of peace, whilst picturing the immense catches which in all probability await them during the summer and autumn months. I am informed on excellent authority that this river is alive with fish all along its course, and the riverside people are now about starting preparations for the coming angling season. With the facilities offered by the Great Eastern Railway to visit the Norfolk and Suffolk waters, our counties ought to be alive with anglers from all parts, as they can here enjoy an inexpensive, yet thoroughly enjoyable holiday, with an almost certainty of plenty of sport, such as cannot be equalled in any other district. I shall ere long, if it meets Mr. Editor's views, give short descriptions of each fishing station on the various rivers, with other particulars necessary for visitors to be acquainted with.—ROBERT MOLL.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

- W. A., Kentish Town.—You can stain your brass winch with the following:—Put it in a solution of one part of bichloride of platinum to ten of water for an hour or so, until you get colour dark enough, then dry before the fire, and whilst warm give a coat of lacquer. This is from Mr. Cholmondeley Pennell's "Book of the Pike." You would have it done better and cheaper at any ironmonger's.
- E. E. S.—The best trout fishing in the neighbourhood of Stafford is in private hands. The "Angler's Annual," published by Messrs. Little and Co., 15, Fetter Lane, price 1s., will give you information about the fishing generally, and what you can get by ticket; see pages 71, 72, and 73.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

THE PROFESSIONAL ANGLING COMPETITION.

SIR,—Your correspondent, "I. C. U.," is not only in error with regard to some of the details of the recent match, but he shows a palpable animus, which is exceedingly bad form in one who (I presume) is a genuine angler.

Mr. Walker, the present proprietor of the Two Sawyers fishing house, has been for years one of the most persistent patrons of the gentle craft in poor "Dory" Coxen and Alf. Perrin's time and few better anglers there are; and, if he chooses to endeavour to further cement the good understanding existing between his men and himself by giving them some prizes to be fished for and a cut of beef or mutton afterwards, one would think it an act to praise—not to sneer at.

It is all very well to talk about professional fishermen not going out "on their own hook." When customers are plentiful, I agree with it; but, Sir, I have fished at Twickenham for twenty-five years, and during the last six of that time lived amongst the men and, consequently, probably know more of their position than your correspondent, and to watch them having to "stand down" day after day during the last two months, with three more to look forward to, in enforced inactivity, is by no means a pleasing sight. All credit then, I say, to Mr. Walker for opening his purse to assist the men and their families. What Mr. Alfred Little may have said about professionals fishing I know not; but this I do know, that he is thoroughly well able to take care of himself, and, if not, a visit to Twickenham would soon convince "I. C. U." that it would be ill-advised for him to speak in disparaging terms of the amateur river keeper, especially near the water side.

Thompson, being an official of the Thames Angling Preservation Society, cannot perhaps defend himself against insinuations, so I beg to state that the "umpiring" he carried out consisted of seeing the six punts start with clean wells. He had to pass the men once or twice whilst carrying on his duties; took care to see that no undersized fish were brought on shore, and, finally, committed the heinous offence of accepting a bit of supper! In the name of common sense, what is there to sneer at in this?

When "I. C. U." says, "I presume" (with reference to Thompson being in the vice chair), he is right—it is like his presumption, inasmuch as Mr. Howard Williams, of Cambridge Park, occupied that post; and, with regard to this gentleman, I simply will repeat a caution I gave "I. C. U." above, as a stauncher friend to the fishermen does not exist. I happened to be present at the "right merry feast," as "I. C. U." is pleased to describe "a roast and a boiled," and I can only affirm that the gathering was a thoroughly enjoyable one, the men behaving themselves in a manner which qualified them to sit down with the highest in the land, and I unhesitatingly assert that friendly meetings like these tend to bring about a better feeling between gentlemen and their fishermen.

I know comparatively little of Thompson; but I will say this of him, that, whilst doing his work thoroughly well, he has also succeeded in securing the support of the best professionals on the tidal waters.

I. O. U., Sir, an apology for the length of this letter, and as I never hit, or care about being hit, in the dark, I am, &c., MATTHIAS BARNETT.

Amyand Park, Twickenham, Mar. 26.

THE LONDON AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY AND THE PRIVILEGE TICKETS.

SIR,—I have just received from the London and North-Western Railway the following:—

London and North-Western Railway,
District Superintendent's Office, Euston,
April 5th 1884.

"I have to inform you that the Directors of this Company have decided to discontinue issuing Anglers' Tickets at reduced rates on this system from the present date.

"It will therefore be necessary for gentlemen travelling for the purpose of fishing to pay the ordinary fares for each journey they may have occasion to make in future.

"I am, sir,
Your obedient servant,
"E. G. EDGX.

"H. J. Tibbatts, Esq., 46, Bishopsgate Street Without, E.C."

I have wired Mr. Geen informing him of the fact.

The London and North-Western Railway are the only company who have up to the present time given me notice of the withdrawal of the concessions.—I am, &c., H. J. TIBBATTS, Hon. Sec.

THE ANGLERS' CHEAP FARES.

SIR,—The letter of Mr. R. Edwards, in last week's edition of the FISHING GAZETTE is a somewhat disjointed composition; but, with the assistance of many explanations in "brackets," can be understood by those who read between the lines, and needs no reply from me. I have neither time nor disposition to enter into a wordy war on a subject of such small and localised interest. I trust, however, that, in future, Mr. Edwards will use a little more discretion before he, under cover of defending anyone, makes an attack on me. No doubt Mr. Oliver feels grateful, but I don't. A far more serious matter claims attention, and that is the withdrawal of "anglers' cheap fares." When first the Liverpool Angling Association, in 1879-80, obtained these concessions from the four railway companies here, its members could travel as far as Windermere,

Penrith and Carlisle in one direction; to Llangollen, Corwen, Bala and Dolgelly in another; to Oswestry, Shrewsbury and Welshpool in a third; and to Ellesmere in a fourth, with all the intervening stations—a total of 118—a fare and quarter for the double journey, the ticket covering three days. For the three following years, we exercised this great privilege undisturbed. Our members travelled in pursuit of their favourite recreation in all directions, and to almost any distance, on presenting their card of membership, and any reasonable being would have been satisfied, have rested, and been thankful. But no; some of those unquiet spirits which infest, more or less, all societies would have societies of their own—and they have them, and, I hope, are content. Those clubs or associations applied to the railway companies to permit them to obtain the cheap fares on presenting their own cards, and were successful. Here is the mistake made by the railway people, for which we all suffer: the issue of these cards should have been left in our hands, and we would have taken care that none but recognised and known anglers had them. The result of this indiscriminate policy soon made itself felt, for something like twelve months ago the companies began to complain that the privilege of cheap travelling for angling purposes was being largely abused, that holders of cards were continually using them when travelling for commercial and private purposes.

In an interview I had by invitation with the local authority here of the L. and N. W. R., I was asked if I could suggest anything to remedy this abuse. I said, "Have one central authority for the issue of privilege cards; instruct your booking clerks to demand, in addition to these cards, the production of each person's fishing tackle when booking; and also instruct the ticket collector at the various stations to see the tackle when the traveller alights and tender an angler's ticket; and finally, prosecute to the utmost every one detected in this fraud, and we will help you." The gentleman said this would be a deal of trouble, and he did not see why they should be called upon to take it, but ultimately promised that instructions should be given as to seeing the tackle, but added that it was certain that if the anglers required so much watching it was not worth while to continue the issue of these cheap fares. He told me of a peculiar case. In a small neighbouring town some kind of a scientific society was formed. They applied for the cheap fares for their particular purpose, but were refused. They held a meeting, converted themselves nominally into an angling association, applied again, and were successful. There cannot be a doubt that these cheap fares have been dangled before the eyes of many, whether anglers or not, as a lure to induce them to join associations for the purpose of swelling their list of members. When any of them objected to joining saying, "Oh, I am not an angler, what is the use of my being a member?" the reply would be, "Remember the cheap fares: you will always get your money back that way, and oblige me as well." I do not vouch for this being so, but I have often heard of it. And so the inevitable end of this kind of thing is upon us, and the innocent suffer with the guilty. And I very much doubt if this disaster will ever be retrieved. From the nature of the many letters I have received from the officials of the various railways, and from what I have gathered in conversation with others, I have scarcely a hope that to any appreciable extent will this privilege be restored to us. I cannot see what inducement we can offer the railway companies of sufficient weight to induce them to reconsider their decision, unless it be the all-powerful one of self-interest, and if they are to be influenced at all, this must be the lever. I know that many stations at a distance, which anglers have visited, tempted by the cheap fare, will, at the full fare, know them no more, and that a great many other stations will also suffer by at least one half. Protests will be of no manner of use; railway companies are used to such things. Directors and shareholders must be reached through the medium of their pockets. Meetings must be held in the various centres, and anglers must pass resolutions of a drastic nature, agreeing to deny themselves the pleasures of angling for a season, or at least enjoy this pleasure less often, and these resolutions must be laid before the directors, aided by such interest as can be brought to bear upon them. Peradventure, this may prove the way to a reconciliation, and may lead to a truce, and this to a treaty of peace by which these privileges may be restored, under not too rigid conditions and restrictions.—I am, &c.,
R. WOOLFALL, Hon. Sec.

The Liverpool Angling Association.

THE WITHDRAWAL OF PRIVILEGE TICKETS

SIR,—Now that the above is so seriously contemplated by many of the railway companies, permit me to claim a few lines of your valuable space with a suggestion.

In reference to a letter in the FISHING GAZETTE of April 5th, the writer asks, "Why each angler cannot pay a guinea or so into the hands of the association by way of guarantee?"

I would venture to condemn this, especially on one principle—viz., that to the poorer class of anglers (and they are legion) it would be a matter of very serious difficulty and consideration.

I think that what we should start with in the first place is more unity and centralisation. Hitherto there seems to be "too many cooks," so to speak; and then there should be one association only, composed of members from the various angling clubs.

And now to the fundamental part of the business.

I think that in return for these privileges (and I am sure every angler will admit they are in every sense of the word), some further and better guarantee should be given to the railway companies, as a proof of the bona-fides of the holders.

And inasmuch as every angling club is responsible for its members, why could not each club deposit an agreed sum in the hands of their association, which in turn would divide it, and deposit it with the various railway companies?

By this method, a fund would be in the hands of the various companies, on the same principle as a season ticket holder, and would, I think, cause members to be more particular in the use of their privileges; and further, in the event of any abuse of the system, the club would be able to deal with the member in such manner as it may deem advisable, but without prejudice to any action by the company.

Further, I would add that this is a matter of the greatest importance to the angling world, and I think should not be allowed to lie dormant, when possibly by meeting the railway companies in a bold and generous spirit, a great deal may be averted—I would almost say, redeemed. What say you, Mr. Editor?—I am, &c.,
OSCAR WARREN.

Gresham Angling Society.

[We have referred to this matter elsewhere.—ED.]

VIRGIN INDIARUBBER WANTED.

SIR,—In No. 359 of the FISHING GAZETTE, published March 9th, a correspondent gives a recipe for mending indiarubber goods. I should be obliged

if he will kindly state where virgin indiarubber is to be obtained at a moderate price? I was asked 7s. per lb, but tried "botle" rubber, and that do s not answer. If you will kindly insert this in your next issue you will greatly oblige.—I am, &c.,

EDWD. A. REYNOLDS,
(Late of the Hammersmith United Angling Society)

Torquay.

MR. HEATON'S "STRIKE FROM THE WINCH REEL."

SIR,—Could you or Mr. Reuben Heaton inform me whether the new "Strike from the Winch" check can be applied to old winches without any great alterations?—I am, &c.,
N. E. L.

Yarmouth.

[We must ask Mr. Heaton to answer this. We fancy not.—ED.]

AN ANGLING CLUB FOR STAFFORD.

SIR,—We are about starting an angling club in Stafford, to be called the "Isaak Walton Angling Club."

To enable us to do the thing in a proper manner, would you kindly forward a code of rules to aid us, and oblige?—I am, &c.,
ALFRED ELEY.

[We have sent Mr. Eley a copy of the Lynn Angling Association's rules, which we consider the best we know. Will Mr. Bradfield, if he sees this, oblige us with a few more copies to send to inquirers like Mr. Eley?—ED.]

AN ADDITION TO THE SALMON FLY.

SIR,—I send you a specimen salmon fly, a description of which I shall feel obliged if you will kindly give in your paper, for the benefit of the "craft." It is the invention of the president of our club, W. S. Vaughan, Esq., of this city.

There is nothing new in the dressing of the fly at all; the novelty consists in the three-hook or minnow drag attached to the fly. The hooks being strapped on a little more than an inch of gut below the fly hook, the specimen sent is a small fly, but, of course, any size can be used. The advantage claimed is that, when a salmon takes the fly "short," there is a greater certainty of securing him. It is superior to a double-hook salmon fly, does not weigh any more, and, as a fly, is taken just as readily by the salmon.



Last week, our president's first day on the salmon streams of the Tyne, the efficiency of the drag was manifested in his landing his first fish, and only fish that rose to his fly, solely by the hold of the "drag." Every salmon-angler has continual experience of fish taking the fly, as we term it, "short," or, by some circumstance, is not well hooked; the "drag" to a large extent makes a certainty of it.

I have never heard of Mr. Vaughan's "little plan" before. I shall be glad to have your opinion on it. The flies dressed in this way are selling amongst local anglers rapidly.—I am, &c.,
J. HARBOTTLE, hon. sec.

Northumberland Angling Club.

[We think the idea is an excellent one, and have had an engraving of it made to aid Mr. Harbottle's description. The drag will be useful when you find that the fish are playing with the fly—trying to pull the tail feathers out without touching the hook.—ED.]

SPINNING FOR PIKE.

SIR,—I have just been reading the letter on spinning for jack, written by "The Boston Bittern." In my time I have taken hundreds of jack by spinning. The sprat is one of the best of baits, but very tender. It requires to be well salted, and then kept in damp bran. I inclose one of my flights which I use. I find the length of copper one of the best things to hold the sprat. I first pass the copper wire through the sprat; then the liphook in the shoulder—the first triangle in the back. I then bend the tail, and hook the last triangle in the curve, which will spin for hours without breaking away, and you are always pretty sure of your fish by striking your jack twice.—I am, &c.,
W. L. AGGER.

Cambridge.



[This is as simple and effective a method as we have seen for some time, and we give a sketch of it.—ED.]

A "BLUE-DUN" DYE WANTED.

SIR,—Could you tell me of any dye by which hackles can be dyed to a blue-dun colour?—I am, &c.,
C. R.

Redcliffe Gardens, S.W., April 16th.

[Do any of our readers know a fast dye that would answer? We should have thought it would be less trouble to get natural blue-dun hackles, and they are in every way preferable to dyed feathers. No dye should ever be used unless it is fast, as it is most exasperating to find you have bought flies only intended to catch anglers, and not fish.—ED.]

FRENCH FISHERMEN IN IRISH WATERS.

SIR,—In last week's issue you referred to a steam fishing boat, remarking that it was of a suitable type for the West Coast of Ireland. It may interest some of your readers to know that there is a great field for such craft off the Galway and Mayo Coast, both in spring and autumn. At the present time a fleet of French luggers, carrying large crews, and quantities of ice and salt, have been fishing for the spring mackerel, and you see the result as mentioned in the letter of which I send you a copy.

During the autumn months the herrings approach the west coast in large quantities, and are of a very superior class—much larger and finer than are those elsewhere to be had.—I am, &c., J. E. WARD.

Midland and Great Western Railway of Ireland,
Broadstone, Dublin.

[COPY.]

"Arran Isles,"
"April 7."

"Dear Mr. Ward,

"In reply to your communication, I beg to state that Arran was visited by large shoals of mackerel on the date referred to. A French fishing boat, the *Mère de Miséricorde*, Fécamp, France, put in here through stress of weather on 30th ult. She had on board 26,000 beautiful mackerel, caught the two previous nights; 18,000 on the night of the 27th; and 8,000 on the night of the 28th. Through the kindness of the skipper, who sent me a pair of fish, I ascertained the weight. The smallest weighed 4 lb., and the largest 5 lb. If the fish could be brought and sold fresh in Paris, I was informed that the take on board would fetch £1300; but corned, the price would be about half. The fishermen positively assured me they never caught finer mackerel. I should not be surprised if I were to be summoned to London to give evidence about the Pier for Hilleary.

"I remain, dear Sir,

(Signed) "Yours faithfully,
"M. O'DONOHUE,
"P. P."

THAMES TROUT TAKEN WITH FLY.

SIR,—In answer to Mr. Footitt, if I remember rightly, Mr. Geo. M. Kelson killed with fly, on a single-handed fly rod, a 9½ lb. Thames trout in Lord Boston's water, at Cookham, in May, 1877. It was landed by Rockwell.—I am, &c., CLEWER POINT.

THAMES TROUT TAKEN WITH FLY.

SIR,—In reference to the enquiry of Mr. C. M. Footitt in THE FISHING GAZETTE of last week as to trout being taken on the Thames with a fly on a single-handed fly rod, I only know of two instances with large fish during my twenty-eight years' connection with the Thames Angling Preservation Society—one by my predecessor, the late Mr. Henry Farnell, when I was a member of the committee; it weighed 8 lb., and was caught under Shepperton Weir, fishing with Thomas Rosewell. I saw the fish directly after it was taken, as I was fishing near there on the same day with George Rosewell. The other was a fish of 10 lb., and was caught at Sunbury by one of the tutors at the College whose name I do not recollect. It is very possible others may have been taken; but small trout of about one pound of late years have been caught each season at Sunbury in good quantities.

7, Ironmonger Lane.
April 12, 1884.

W. H. BROUGHAM, Sec., T.A.P.S.

SALMON IN TIDAL WATER.

SIR,—I should be much obliged if you or any of your readers can tell me the best method or any likely method of taking salmon with rod and line in tidal water.

In this river (the Devonshire Avon) salmon come in from the sea at times in numbers, and ascend a mile or more with the flowing tide, and go out to sea again with the ebb throughout the summer. At this season they do not take the yellow or orange fly, which as kelt they take readily. Are salmon ever known to take anything under these circumstances? If any of your readers can suggest any kind of fly or bait that would answer, they would do a good turn to sportsmen in this neighbourhood, as our river is not open when fish can get up "fre-h."—I am, &c., H. L. JENKINS.

Glenacombe, Kingsbridge,
South Devon.

[Has our correspondent ever tried the shrimp, or, better still, the Prawn (called the "Colley" in Ireland), or the lob worm? If they will not take these or flies, they won't take anything. The Prawn is fished by letting it go down the catches with a fine line, and drawing it up again gently.—Ed.]

A 5½ LB. TROUT FROM WEST DRAYTON.

SIR,—As every little helps the paper, I thought I would let you know of a catch last Sunday by a fellow club man. Mr. Lewis Edwards, Society Caxtonian Anglers, took at Godfrey's, Thorney Broad, West Drayton, last week a trout 5½ lb.—I am, &c., GEORGE A. HEAD, Caxtonian Angler.

FISH IN PARK LAKES, &c.

SIR,—Allow me finally to reply to Mr. Woolfall's letter on a purely local subject, as he erroneously terms it. "Is the statement true?" the honourable secretary inquires. Well, to give justice to the Liverpool Angling Association through your columns, Mr. Editor, I believe the public writer referred to did not directly entertain a prejudice against the Association; nevertheless, it is not pleasant to the experienced members to be termed, improperly, "beardless youths." He probably refers to the sons of gentlemen in good positions, who can well afford to pay for a permit, and still not belong to the association, and who do not recognise the true angler's spirit. In explanation of the word "true," I infer that it is unsportsmanlike and illegitimate to haul trout from still waters, and readers of the GAZETTE, doubtless, will coincide with my remarks.

If any subscribers (or others) of this fishing paper who would wish to join in forming an angling association for the districts previously named in a former GAZETTE, I should be very glad if they would forward any letters, expressing their judgment on the proposal, to Sessions Road, Liverpool. H. OLIVER.

[We do not understand the expression, "Haul trout from still waters." Taking trout from a still pool is the most difficult branch of the art of fly-fishing or spinning.—Ed.]

CLEVER CAPTURE OF WYE SALMON.—Mr. Tute, a gentleman residing at Aylestone Hill, Hereford, was fishing a few days ago in the river Wye in the Hampton waters (two or three miles from the city of Hereford), and killed two salmon, one 20 lb. and the other 11 lb., and he followed up his success on the following day by taking four more, one of which turned the scales at 21 lb., one 20 lb., one 16 lb., and one 12 lb. They were all bright, good spring fish, and the total weight was 100 lb.

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Contributions are solicited, but the Editor will not undertake to return rejected MSS. unless accompanied with a stamped addressed envelope.

Correspondents are requested to write on one side of the paper only, and give their real names and addresses, not necessarily as signatures to their letters, but as a guarantee of good faith. Unless this rule be adhered to, no notice will be taken of such communications.

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The Fishing Gazette.

SATURDAY, APRIL 26, 1884.

THE QUESTION OF THE RAILWAY PRIVILEGE TICKETS.

IN connection with the announcements which we have with much regret had to publish lately, we should like to say a few words. After these announcements had been made, we fully expected that some action would have been taken by the associations; but, as they made no sign, we felt it was our duty, in the interests of all anglers who value the privilege of travelling at about half the usual fare, to stir them up, and, consequently, we sent the following letter to the secretaries of the Central, the West Central, and the East Central Associations, as long ago as April 7:—

"THE THREATENED WITHDRAWAL OF THE PRIVILEGE TICKETS.

"April 7, 1884.

"DEAR SIR,—

"I beg to ask you whether you do not think we ought to make an effort to retain the splendid privileges which we now enjoy from the railway companies?

"I think we should call a public meeting one evening next week, at the Society of Arts Rooms, Adelphi, Strand; invite club anglers generally, and at the meeting appoint two or more delegates from each of the three associations to wait upon the railway companies, with a resolution passed by the meeting, and see what can be done.

"If you agree with me, and will do all in your power to get the members of your association to attend, and will write or telegraph to me by return, I will then engage the room for eight o'clock some evening—say, Thursday, the 17th, or Friday, the 18th, if we can have it. I will also advertise the meeting well gratis in the GAZETTE and send notices to the other papers.

"Yours truly,

"R. B. MARSTON, ED. F.G."

To this letter Mr. Tibbatts replied at once that he fully recognised the urgency of the matter, and would refer to their president at once. Mr. Ghurney wrote to say he did not see what object there was to call a meeting for, as there was nothing to go upon. The East Central did not reply.

At any rate, we have the satisfaction of knowing that we have done all in our power, and more than we were at all called upon to do, to get anglers for once to show a united front to the companies and endeavour to retain and even regain these valuable privileges.

Why are these privileges being taken away? Simply because the companies have to deal with three associations instead of one responsible body. Mr. Woolfall, of Liverpool, in his letter last week, states distinctly that this is the reason in their case; and every reader of these lines knows it is the case as regards the London clubs. What do the individual members gain more by belonging to one than to another association? Nothing, unless jealousy and bad feeling are gains. But those of our readers who are club members—whether they belong to the Central, the East Central, or the West Central—ought to impress upon their officers the folly of letting time slip away without effort being made. Is it too late to get a meeting called such as we proposed three weeks ago?

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WEST CENTRAL ASSOCIATION.

THIS important meeting was held on the 18th inst, Mr. Philip Geen, the president, in the chair. Forty-three societies had representatives present, in addition to those from the United London Anglers' Central Committee.

The usual business of the annual meeting is to elect the thirty-six gentlemen who fill the various honorary offices in connection with this association, and herewith will be found a list of names which will show what a large number of well-known anglers are pleased to give their services to advance the interests of the London anglers.

It had become known to a large number that the president, Mr. Geen, had given way to the earnest solicitations of the other officers of the association, and had consented to allow his name to be submitted as a candidate for the office of chairman. This in addition to the great anxiety which was naturally felt in respect to the railway concessions, caused a full gathering of delegates to be present.

The minutes, correspondence, &c., &c., having been disposed of, the president announced that the next business was the election of chairman, and as he was a candidate for the office, he felt it his duty to vacate the chair, while the question of who was to fill it for the coming year was settled.

Mr. Beckett, the vice-chairman, having taken the chair, proceeded to give his reasons why he thought it desirable in the interest of the association that Mr. Geen should be elected to his old post at their head. Mr. Beckett was several times during his spirited speech interrupted by general cheers, and at its close it was proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously that Mr. Philip Geen hold the dual offices of president and chairman for the coming year. Mr. Geen, in reply, said:—

"Mr. Chairman, Vice Chairman and Gentlemen,—Before I say a word about the new chairman it is necessary, indeed imperative, that I should express my deep regret that our old chairman, Mr. Bonvoisin, has determined to withdraw for the present from active angling work. To say that his sound practical advice will be missed from his place here, and in all those societies' rooms where he has been a frequent visitor, does not adequately convey an idea of the effect of his determination. He has been such an indefatigable worker for us and for anglers generally, that it will be impossible that any one can quickly fill the place which he has held, either as regards the good work he has done or the esteem and respect in which he is universally held.

"Every individual in this room will I am sure permit me to say that we hope this temporary retirement will assist him to enjoy more fully the comfort, happiness, and felicity of his married life, and that he and his future partner 'the blue-grey eyed winsome Devonshire lass' may lead a life as free from clouds as we could wish them to, and that their joint efforts and happiness may bear good fruit.

"Gentlemen I have now to thank you for the great and I fear undeserved compliment which is embodied in the vote which has just been put and unanimously carried; that I be requested to undertake the important duties of chairman of this association.

"I have received numberless kindnesses from the anglers of London, whose representatives are here assembled to-night, and knowing as I do how little I have deserved so much, I am compelled to seek for some explanation, and the explanation, in my opinion, is this—that I have one merit which commends itself to you and those you represent, the merit of a true, honest, steadfast devotion to this association, which I assisted to start with a firm conviction on my part that some day it would be the great centre of piscatorial work and an institution of which all anglers should be proud to say, 'I am a member.'

"I had the pleasure of being present at the annual committee meeting, held a fortnight since, when one of the duties of that body was to consider who should be invited to submit themselves for election as chairman. The committee were unanimous (that is, as unanimous as a meeting can be when their president is entirely opposed to them) that I should be offered to you. Many weighty arguments were used to convince me that it was my duty to come back and be always present as in old times.

"My answer was, 'I have not the time to spare; I have too many pleasing duties in connection with angling and anglers which I should have to give up if I did as requested.' However, I promised to think it over. I have thought it over, and here I am, obedient to your committee, offering myself as your chairman.

"In thinking over the question of chairmanship, I have necessarily thought a very great deal on the policy which it will be necessary to pursue to make my year of office satisfactory to you, and so successful as shall be a reward to all those who will be elected this evening to work with me.

"Gentlemen, one thing which I have thought much of, and which I have no doubt about, is that it is time, it is necessary, that the West Central Association should have a definite and independent policy of its own, definite as to the objects which it has in view, and independent in the widest possible sense of the word. We must be free to do that which we believe to be right without waiting for friends. We must no longer sleep on the sweet security of that triple alliance which has lost us four of our railways, and has insidiously and determinedly worked to our deterioration. We must be up and doing with a determination which cannot be withstood, and then at the year's end we shall have something to show you in return for the labours of that large number of good-hearted anglers who will be elected this evening to work for you, and who have for so many years devoted their time without fee or reward to your service.

"I want you to consider carefully what I am about to say, as in it is embodied the policy which I think is so necessary to our association's future welfare, that on it I pin my faith of success.

"It has probably occurred to every delegate who has attended the meetings of this association with regularity, that we have had in the past one grievous fault—a very uncommon fault—the fault of not looking closely enough after our own interests, and being too generous by half when dealing with the other associations. Unfortunately, ours has been a generosity that has been more fully appreciated than reciprocated. This must be altered. For the future it is the West Central Association and the anglers of London first, and our friends of the two other associations second.

"No better illustration of the manner in which our anxiety to be amiable to the other associations has led us astray could possibly be adduced than our present position and relations with the Fisheries Society. At the present moment this society, instead of being a representative body, is entirely in the hands of the two lesser associations. If we put aside the question of our duty to those of whom we take the yearage, and to whom we are directly responsible, there remains the extraordinary fact that we went to the room of an association with less than one-fifth of the number of our members, and there agreed to form a society which should give the two lesser associations the same number of representatives as ourselves. What is the effect of this generosity? Why, that the two combine against us and thrust us out.

"Gentlemen, we must alter this; we must do our duty; we cannot go on handing over no less than one-half of our gross income to a society over which our control is nil. There are two ways out of the difficulty: we must be fairly represented in accordance with the number of subscribers which we bring, or we must (and under the altered circumstances of the day I think this may be the better course) take over our share of waters and preserve them ourselves. However, the question comes to this: we must have fair representation or dissolution, whichever you or your committee and officers decide is the best for this association, and that large number of anglers you represent. Possibly it may occur to some that there are difficulties to be surmounted in carrying out either of these alternatives. My reply is, 'Not the slightest. It is purely a question of the supplies, which, I feel sure, you will have no scruple in retaining in your hands until the question is satisfactorily settled.'

"I have much to say to you about the better preservation of the waters we fish, and of increased assistance to the various preservation societies; but that need not detain us to-night, as that can be considered another time.

"Next we come to the question of the railway privileges, and I am compelled to say we must strike off those unprofitable fetters which bind us to the two other associations in respect to them. Free and unaided, the West Central Association won the Great Western, the South-Western, the London and North-Western, and the Great Northern. Fettered to the two other associations, we have failed to win a single railway; but worse, fettered when our hands should have been free, we have stood still in face of a knowledge of what was coming, and made no effort to save those railways which are now irrecoverably lost to us.

"Do you want proof, gentlemen, that railways will in the future have more confidence in one strong association that believes in itself and acts alone? If so, I instance the London and South-Western Railway, who, after careful consideration, have determined that their concessions must be suspended from to-day until the 16th of June, after which they will try the plan which I believe in, and have consistently recommended—namely, one ticket, worked by one responsible body. This I believe to be the only plan which can last. One ticket, and that one the West Central Association's, which association will be held solely responsible for the observance of the regulations under which they will be issued.

"I have presumed, without waiting for your sanction, and what is still more serious, without waiting the sanction of No. 2 or No. 3, to thank the London and South-Western Railway Com-

pany on behalf of the anglers of London for promising to give back their concession, and I have thanked them on your behalf for the confidence which they place in you in making our association the guardian of it for every London angler. This change in the management of the London and South-Western Railway concession can, and will be, so arranged that every angler who desires to use it can do so as before, with this difference only—that we shall have that necessary control over it which will prevent its abuse.

"The yearage is an important question, and one to which I wish to call your serious attention, as this is where the lever must be applied to the Fisheries Society. The amount which it is desirable to fix it at is no doubt settled in most of our minds; and as it is a sum so moderate as 2s., the same as last year, I will not trouble you further on this point, but ask you to consider with me just for one moment what is to be done with it, as I believe that on your decision depends in no small degree the prosperity and usefulness of our association for the coming year. I say, after deliberate consideration, that whatever sum be collected it must be one sum which shall entitle the holders of our tickets to all privileges, and that the sum in its entirety must go into our association's exchequer to be dealt with from time to time as your wisdom and the circumstances of the day may dictate as best serving the interests of those from whom the funds are drawn.

"Now, gentlemen, give me your confidence; give me, and those whom you will presently elect to serve you, an earnest of your faith by endorsing the policy I have sketched out, and then we shall be free to work with a will.

"If, gentlemen, you agree with me as to the course to be pursued, I will be your chairman and work for you and those you represent with all my heart."

The following resolution was then proposed by Mr. Page and seconded by Mr. Hotham:—

"Resolved, that the delegates here assembled at the annual general meeting of the association having heard the statement of the chairman elect, do hereby cordially agree with the views therein expressed, and pledge themselves to co-operate with him in carrying them into effect."

Carried unanimously.

The names of those elected to fill the various offices are as follows:—President and chairman, Mr. Geen; vice-chairman, Mr. Beckett; hon. sec., H. J. Tibbatts; trustees, Mr. Field, Mr. Murphy (Mr. Townsend to be elected at the next monthly meeting); tyler, Mr. Grant, Rodney Angling Society, volunteered for the office; working committee, Messrs. Welch, Star, Thorling, Castell, Green, Hotham, Jennings, Page, J. Rich, Bonvoisin, Hobden, R. B. Marston; auditors, Messrs. Harding, Bocking, Vincent; auditor, Anglers' Benevolent, Mr. Green. Committeemen, Anglers' Benevolent, Messrs. Field, Murphy, Beckett, Jennings, Hotham, R. B. Marston, A. J. Little; Mr. Geen, by virtue of his office, vice-president.

THE "MARSTON" FLY ROD.

WE hope next week to be able to answer several correspondents who want particulars of this rod, which is being made for sale to the retail houses by Messrs. S. Allcock and Co., Standard Works, Redditch. In the mean time, we beg to ask those tackle makers who intend to keep this rod in stock to send us their names and addresses, so we may be able to inform anglers where the rod is to be had, as we have no wish to favour one firm more than another.

FRESHWATER FISHERIES ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

IN the House of Lords on Thursday, on the motion of the Earl of Dalhousie, this Bill, with a few verbal amendments, was read a third time and passed.

We have received an invitation from the Council of the Society of Arts, for Wednesday evening, April 30th, to hear a paper by Mr. J. W. Willis-Bund on "The New Legislation as to Freshwater Fisheries." The chair will be taken at 8 o'clock by Mr. Edward Birkbeck, M.P.

We are sure to have a very able paper from Mr. Willis-Bund, and we advise all who can do so, to attend the meeting. Non-members can get tickets from members, or can be personally introduced by them.

GEORGE JAMES EATON, of Starkholmes, Matlock-Bath, Derbyshire, respectfully invites Noblemen and Gentlemen to try his standard FLIES for the present season. No flies sent or made up but what he himself has proved sure killers. A trial is all that is required, from gentlemen who can fish, to prove whether they may be genuine or not. Patronised by some of the best fishermen of the day. All flies dressed on the best Kendal hooks. Prices: Point Flies, 2s. 6d. per Dozen; Dropper Flies, 2s. per Dozen. Orders punctually attended to.—(ADVT.)

THE DON (ABERDEENSHIRE).

"A river winding through the pomp
Of cultivated nature."

ATTACHED to the royal and ancient burgh of Kintore is a splendid reach of river, fully three miles in extent, well stocked with trout, pike, and salmon, and open to anyone on payment of the almost nominal sum of half a guinea per annum. The privilege of a *free* right has in no way promoted an extensive taste for angling amongst the burgesses and inhabitants of the place. Quite the contrary. Unless by a few, the splendid opportunities they possess are viewed with the utmost indifference. Hence it is, no doubt, that those who pursue the pleasant and health-giving recreation of angling usually enjoy good sport. We recommend the Kintore Burgh Water to the attention of our angling friends. Twelve miles from Aberdeen, good accommodation in the place or convenient railway facilities to and from the Granite City, a varied and extensive reach of water and abundance of fish—such angling opportunities, at a trifling cost, are not of every-day occurrence.

From the beginning of September to the close of the season (31st October) is undoubtedly the best time for salmon fishing. In March and April, when the river is in good order, a few fish are occasionally landed, but the results on the whole are not sufficiently encouraging to warrant us recommending the Kintore Burgh Water to the attention of salmon anglers during the spring months. As in the Dee so in the Don, in the autumn the salmon are large, in the spring small. The average weight of early fish may be struck at 9 lb., and of late fish from 16 to 20 lb., according to the season. Seldom, unless a good deal of rain falls about the end of August, does salmon-fishing higher up the Don than the cruives and dykes become very general till September is well advanced. In an ordinary season, anglers seeking to enjoy the autumn fishing will have started betimes if they turn Kintoreward by the time we have indicated. During the first week or two, if the water is low and clear, the Jock Scott, butcher, and Popham usually prove killing flies. In water slightly discoloured the grey heron has long maintained a good position in the estimation of Kintore anglers, while in muddy water the lobworm, phantom minnow, and yellow eagle receive the attention of the great majority. As on most other rivers of Aberdeenshire, the silver doctor, dusty miller, and silver grey answer their purpose under certain conditions of water and light. An old hand, whose reel has played many a tune, informs us that bottom fishing is generally attended with good results when the river shows a surface level of 4 to 6 inches above its ordinary height. The same gentleman also acquaints us that he prefers the natural to the phantom minnow, and the phantom minnow to the Devon. So much for taste, and so much for salmon fishing. Now for a few words regarding trout and pike.

In genial weather, and the absence of easterly winds, trout begin to show themselves about the end of March; in some seasons, even a little earlier. At that time, between eleven o'clock and noonday, when the March brown or any other natural fly is attracting their attention, the angler's prospect of obtaining some excitement is removed from chance to certainty. If the March brown, hare lug, partridge ruff, and black Palmer are used, anyone possessing a fair knowledge of the casts might, within the hour mentioned, basket from ten to twelve trout, averaging $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. With everything favourable, such a result may be relied upon as a pretty correct estimate of an average angler's capabilities. This we are convinced, however, any adept in the art of dry-fly fishing could easily exceed by giving exclusive attention to the deep, slow pools, where the heavy fish usually lie. The results obtained during the month of April might be slightly better, but, on the whole, far from proportionate with the extended duration of the feeding time. The priest, professor, and hare lug, with the addition of spiders and duns, form the best April range of trout flies. During the month of May, the grey midge, bumble bee, black spider, and coddung are very effective lures. Later on, the water cricket, coachman, little blue dun, and small midges are the principal favourites. In June and July anglers devote a good deal of attention to bottom fishing during the first half of the day, and use the fly a little before and the natural minnow after sundown. With the latter especially we have heard of some very heavy trout being caught, the largest recorded weighing 8 lb. 3 oz. In midsummer, on the day immediately following a pretty heavy fall of rain, the best baskets of the season are made with the worm, a 14 to 16 feet rod being used for the purpose. On such occasions, though the average is less, the number caught more than compensates for the deficiency in size. In certain conditions of water, a very excellent trouting authority informs us that, of all lures of the artificial minnow order, a small size of Brown's blue phantom is decidedly the best.

From the lordly salmon to the infinitesimal stickleback, the Don can boast of the following varieties in greater or less abundance:—Grilse, bull trout, brook trout, sea trout, whiting, pike, eel, flounders, and minnow.

The Kintore Burgh Water has long maintained a good reputation for pike. Indeed, in few other reaches of the river can they be said to abound to the same extent. A local authority on pike-fishing estimates their average weight at 4 lb., and informs us of having on one occasion, in less than two hours, killed half a dozen, weighing fully 40 lb. We incline to the belief that large specimens are scarce, as we seldom hear of any exceeding 14 lb. being landed. A peacock-winged lure, with red flannel body, has hitherto been used with considerable success. Well-skilled local anglers would consider 40 lb. a fairly good result to obtain on a favourable day in the early season. That pike are not regarded with much favour in these regions we have only to quote what one of our most successful pike-fishers, Mr. Thomas Watt, Kintore, says on the subject:—

"Pike are very long livers—they have been known to live over 100 years. They are the most voracious of our freshwater fish; in fact, they are a pest to our river fisheries, molesting every other kind of fish and worrying away amongst themselves. The more pike killed the better for our salmon and trout anglers."

Eels infest the Kintore Burgh Water, particularly during July, August, and the first half of September. About that time they are a perfect annoyance to those indulging in bottom fishing. It frequently occurs that scarcely anything else can be got. They abound in such numbers, and seize the worm with so great avidity, that scarcely any other fish has a chance. In weight they might average about three quarters of a pound.

There is nothing particularly noticeable in connection with the Kintore Burgh Water excepting the irregular nature of its banks and their complete immunity from shrubs and trees. All over its course a free cast of any description can be practised, experts as well as novices having nothing to complain of in this respect. In some parts the water is streamy, in other parts deep and slow. Where quickest it is usually broadest. It "winds about and in and out," pursuing its way through a rich tract of well-cultivated country. A hundred yards or so from its upper extremity it throws out an arm, 10 to 12 yards in width, and forms a delta of meadow and arable land from 12 to 15 acres in extent. The bridging of this portion of the river at a convenient centre is, we believe, almost completed. Access in this manner to the "island" will be much appreciated by anglers, as it will save the necessity for using waders in order to be able to fish the water running alongside its off-lying parts. Almost opposite the village, and within a few yards of the old ferry, a handsome bridge, erected mainly through the enterprise of the present provost, Thos. Fraser, Esq., now spans the river. In conclusion, we have only to say that anglers from a distance wishing to ascertain the best casts for the various kinds of fishing cannot do better than call on Mr. Thomas Watt, Merchant, or the provost of the burgh. Either of these gentlemen will have the greatest possible pleasure in affording all necessary information.

W. M.

FISHING ABOUT ROSS (HEREFORDSHIRE), ON THE WYE.

ILLEGAL PRACTICES.

THIS river, about Ross (Herefordshire), is in capital condition for fly-fishing, but sport has not been good. The north and east winds which have prevailed during the week detracted considerably from the enjoyment of the anglers. Boys and poachers should be cautious about this district in catching pinks and offering them for sale all over the locality, remembering the Coleshill magistrate, three weeks since, convicted and fined two men from Birmingham, for catching two minnows for baits during the close season. The catching of the little fish goes on about here, notwithstanding all the efforts made to prevent poaching. The real anglers, of whom I am glad to say there are plenty here, are never guilty of such practices, but return to the river, with the greatest care, all unseasonable fish during close time. Great and irreparable injury is done to the river about here annually at close time by a considerable number of grayling being caught by ignorant anglers, who must be aware of the fact that these delicate fish are for the present out of season, and all such fish should be returned at once to their natural element. But to many it matters but little, for anything in the "shape of a fish" is bagged or pocketed without the slightest consideration whether it is in season or not. Mr. T. De-la-Hay and Mr. J. Wall secured recently some good fish, each being fortunate enough to land several clean salmon, some weighing 19 lb. A gentleman got in the train at Ross this evening and showed a splendid salmon he had caught to-day; it would weigh 20 lb.

J. P.
Hereford, April 23.

DEATH OF MR. S. MORGAN.

JUST as we go to press, we hear with much regret of the death of Mr. S. Morgan. The sad news comes from Mr. Ghurney; but, as it is only a note, we must wait to give further particulars next week.

RESULTS OF DEPRIVATION OF FISH FOOD.—Another true tale illustrating the sad results of being deprived of fish food is thus told by the *Virginia Enterprise*: "The people of Grantsville complain that they have not had even a solitary fresh fish in their town during the whole winter. Owing to this lack of brain food not a few persons find their mental faculties decaying to such an extent that they can no longer speak the truth. Their brains rattle in their skulls when they walk. As soon as navigation to their town opens the people will want about a nine-foot sturgeon each."

THAMES ANGLING PRESERVATION SOCIETY.—The Worshipful Company of Vintners have sent a donation of five guineas to the funds of this society, making a total of £76 5s. contributed by five of the City Companies. The appeal this year in this direction was only a limited one, nearly each of the companies to whom the appeal was made having already liberally responded, and what has been received will be a good foundation for a future effort.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

THE GWYNIAD (GENUS COREGONUS).

A correspondent living at Bala, North Wales, sends us in spirits a fine gwyniad, with the following letter:—"I take the liberty of forwarding by Parcel Post a bottle containing a Gwyniad. This fish seems to be very numerous in Bala Lake, and very little is known about it. Perhaps you will kindly give us a little information about it. They can never be caught with anything, and it is thought the mouth is too small for them to take a bait. After a storm we can find an occasional one dead on the shore, but they are not known to be got in any other way. Some four years ago, after the lake had been frozen over and the ice broken up, there were some hundreds of them found coming ashore dying. If one would be extremely obliged if any further information could be given."—We are much obliged to our correspondent for the specimen, and only wish it had been put into Mr. King's most excellent preservative instead of into spirits; the scales and eyes would then have been bright, and not coated with thick white fur.*

The Gwyniad is one of a very numerous family of fishes of the Salmonidæ kind called Coregoni, some splendid specimens of which—many of great weight—were exhibited in the late Fisheries Exhibition, especially from Canada, Scandinavia, and Russia. In Great Britain and Ireland these fishes are comparatively rare, being confined chiefly just to one or two lakes in each country. The following is Dr. Günther's description of Coregonus. Body covered with scales of moderate size; cleft of the mouth small; maxillary broad, short or of moderate length, not extending behind the orbit. Teeth if present, extremely minute and deciduous; dorsal fin of moderate length; caudal deeply forked, ova small. The majority of this species, of which more than for y are known, inhabit lakes, and comparatively few are subject to periodical migrations to the sea, like *Salmo*. They are confined to the northern parts of temperate Europe, Asia and North America. Their distribution is local, but sometimes three and more species are found in the same lake. They abound in every lake and river of the northern parts of North America, and are known by the name of "white-fish." They are of vital importance to some tribes of the native population. In the British Islands several small species occur—viz., *C. Clupeoides* the "Gwyniad," "Schelly," or "Powan" from the great lakes; *C. Vandusius*, the "Vendace" of "Lochmaben"; and *C. Pollan* of the Irish Lakes. The latter is brought in quantities to Belfast Market during the season—that is, at the time when it rises from the depths of Lough Neagh to deposit its spawn near the shore. Thomson says that in September, 1874, some 17,000 were taken at three or four draughts of the net. Some of the species of the continent of Europe and America attain to a much larger size than the British species—viz., to a length of two feet.

Yarrell, in his "History of British Fishes," Vol. I. p. 310 says:—"The gwyniad of Wales was formerly very numerous in Llyn Tegid (Fair Lake) of Bala, until the year 1803, when pike were put into the lake, which have very much reduced their numbers. It is very numerous in Ullswater and other large lakes of Cumberland, where, on account of its large scales, it is called the schelly. It occurs also abundantly in the neighbouring Lake of Hawes Water, and is probably the Coregonus, which is known to inhabit the Red Tarn, a small piece of water near the summit of Helvellyn, and elevated more than 2,600 feet above the sea. Dr. Heysham, the natural historian of Cumberland, and Pennant also, in his "British Zoology," have recorded that many hundreds are sometimes taken at a single draught of the net. They are gregarious, and approach the shore in vast shoals in spring and summer. Pennant says they die very soon after taken out of the water, are insipid in taste, and must be eaten soon, for they will not keep long. The fish is not unlike a herring in appearance, and the Welsh term "Gwyniad" has reference to their silvery appearance. They spawn towards the end of the year, and the most usual length of the adult fish is from ten to twelve inches. In September, 1840, the Earl of Lonsdale's fishermen took 800 schellies, besides perch and other fish, at a single sweep of the net in Hawes Water†.

Couch, in his "History of Fishes," Vol. IV., p. 286, says:—"The gwyniad is known all over the Alpine or elevated districts of the Continent of Europe. . . . In Great Britain Bala Lake possesses it in the greatest abundance; and I feel indebted to the kindness of Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart., for the opportunity of procuring specimens from which our figure and description were taken."

We are inclined to think that by sinking a very long line to the bottom of the deep parts of Bala Lake gwyniad might be taken on roach hooks, baited with caddis bait, creepers, gentles, and the small shellfish found in the lake; or an examination of the contents of the stomach of one or two specimens might furnish a clue to the food it is in the habit of taking. Hooks should be placed above and below the lead weight, so as to keep some baits on the bottom, and others near it. The mouth is small, but not smaller than that of a roach, and as it is quite evident the fish feeds on something, we feel convinced that a little careful experiment would end in bringing it within the category of fish to be caught with the hook. Some day we hope to try the experiment.—ED. FISHING GAZETTE.

HOW THAMES TROUT ARE SOMETIMES CAUGHT.

It is a proverbial fact there are some Thames anglers who are fully deserving of the capture of a good Thames trout, and who have trout fished the river for years, but up to the present time have not caught one. It is true in many cases those who are the most deserving of luck do not always get it. I have used the word "luck" because, I think, in fishing some anglers have better luck than others. I know of many instances, but I will only refer to one, or perhaps two, how unfortunate some anglers are. The late Mr. R. S. Smyth, who up to the time of his death was a member of the committee of the Thames Angling Preservation Society, always remarked, "He was the most unlucky angler that ever lived. He had fished as much as most

* We have on our desk a bottle of Mr. King's fluid containing roach, which are as bright and tough as if only just caught. They formed part of Mr. King's exhibit at the Fisheries Exhibition ten months ago.

† When fishing Hawes Water we were told by a local angler that in the summer swarms of "bream" were sometimes seen. We should be glad if Mr. Corry would ascertain for us if this so-called bream is not really the gwyniad or schelly. This fish has the adipose fin common to the Salmonidæ and absent in the Cyprinidæ, &c.—ED.]

anglers, but had never had a good day." I invited him once for a day's perch-fishing at Hampton, when the perch were on, and it was arranged, if I got there first, I was to commence fishing. I did so for one hour, and in that time and up to the time of his entering the punt, I had taken nearly four dozen of good perch. I said, "Now you are in for a good day." But, alas! it proved otherwise. The fish, from some cause or other, went off their feed, and at the end of the day we only counted five dozen fish, to which my good friend added, "My old luck." The other instance was with a friend of mine, now living, who was a member of the Thames Angling Preservation Society. He became so disgusted with his bad luck, as he called it, he gave up Thames fishing, and I never could get him to subscribe again. These remarks will lead up to the question, "How Thames trout are sometimes caught." I remember, some years ago, when many of the anglers of the present day were unknown, a gentleman came down to Kingston to try his luck in Thames trout. He was not known as a Thames angler, but had probably heard of the famous Thames trout, and had made up his mind to try for one. As luck would have it (may I use the word "luck," Mr. Editor?), he succeeded in catching two good fish: one, if I remember rightly—and I feel sure I do—weighed 9 lb., and the other 6 lb. Here is the idea: anglers on the banks of the river may be constantly fishing and never get a trout; others come down, as this angler did, for a solitary day, and succeed. This is the way Thames trout are sometimes caught. This is not an exceptional instance, for there is now a very recent one which has suggested my writing as I have done. Only last week, from what I can learn, two gentlemen came down from London—one, I believe, was a resident in the North Country—and called at the fishing-tackle shop of Messrs. Gaynor and Son, at Richmond. They informed Mr. Gaynor they were anxious to catch a Thames trout, and asked him to set them up with the necessary tackle, and, further, to tell them where to go. There was no difficulty about this, and having supplied them with the proper material, he recommended them to go to Teddington and employ Frank Kemp. This was on Wednesday in last week. They acted on his advice, and it occupied very little time in their landing a handsome Thames trout of 7 lb. The fish was brought to Mr. Gaynor for the purpose of getting it preserved, and was exhibited the same evening in the club room of the Piscatorial Society, at the Station Hotel, Richmond, when Mr. Thomas Spreckley, the president of the Thames Angling Preservation Society was present. This is another instance of how Thames trout are sometimes caught. There used to be another way, but that, I hope, belongs entirely to the past. I mean by the use of night lines, so used that trout were frequently caught by them. There was plenty of evidence obtained to prove that this was done to a great extent. Perhaps one of the most unjustifiable methods of how Thames trout are sometimes caught is where a professional fisherman day after day is fishing by himself, and when he succeeds in catching a fish writing to one of his clients, who comes down the next morning under cover of angling, and returns home credited with the trout caught by the fisherman the day before. This is certainly not sportsmanlike. B.

CLUB REPORTS.

AMICABLE BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

A special meeting will be held in the club room on Wednesday, April 30, to take into consideration the suspension and withdrawal of the Anglers' Privilege Tickets by the railway authorities. Members are earnestly requested to attend this meeting, as their interest is at stake. Chair nine o'clock sharp.—J. WOBBLEDGE, SEC.

BERMONDSEY BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

The annual supper will take place at the club house, the Alscot Arms, Alscot Road, Bermondsey (host, Mr. Sargent), on May 5th, when the distribution of prizes will take place.—W. C., sec.

CLAPHAM JUNCTION ANGLING SOCIETY.

At a special meeting held on the 27th ult., it was decided to hold the annual dinner and distribution of prizes on Tuesday, the 13th May next, at our club house, the Lord Ranelagh, Verona Street, Clapham Junction, when our worthy host, Mr. Speed, promises to groundbait the swims to the satisfaction of the most exacting of anglers. Tickets, 3s., can be had of the secretary, or at the club house, as above, and I shall take it as a favour if early application be made, so that arrangements can be satisfactorily carried out. Members of South London clubs and anglers generally are cordially invited both to the dinner and to inspect our collection of fish, &c., &c. Meeting nights, Sundays and Thursdays, at nine p.m.—E. WILSON.

CROWN PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

The second annual concert and distribution of prizes will take place at our club house, the Crown Tavern, Clerkenwell Green, on next Tuesday evening, April 29th, when we hope to have a good company. Ladies are respectfully invited on this occasion. The chair will be occupied by Mr. W. H. Willcockson, faced in the vice by Mr. W. Ellis. Pianist, Mr. George Vidall. Several talented ladies and gentlemen have promised to attend. Commence at 8 o'clock. Admission free.—W. H. BURWASH, JUN., sec.

GREAT YARMOUTH PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

At our weekly meeting on Tuesday it was decided to open the angling season in this district by an outing of our angling members, on the proposition of D. S. Bayfield with C. K. Lamb in the chair; Mr. Scotter, of St. Peter's Road, vice. The Secretary was requested to write to those who held offices and had not attended very often, to know if they wished to continue, as the election for the ensuing year takes place on the 30th inst., and it was the wish and desire of many of the oldest members that the society in future shall be more of a convivial meeting as well as angling. In our next report I will send a detailed account of the work of the society for the past twelve months,

more especially for the instruction of young societies which are thinking of establishing themselves as offshoots from the parents with the hope that no fishery right's case will crop up, and their secretaries will not have to come to London for money, to carry them on with, and if they do, will take care their shorthand notes are with them as their society's property. Should such circumstances even occur to them as have your humble servant; and as this Mr. Edi or is my last before our year closes, allow me to inform your readers and our supporters that if many of us who have worked hard with time, money, and otherwise cannot gain the rights of the Public angler in Norfolk, the fault is not ours. I or we may be only the tool or foot of the many; but honestly our cause was a just one. If it was wrongly put, who was to blame, or who is to blame for the case not being settled the same as others, and not this delay of time and uncertainty?—J. LARK, sec.

GRESHAM ANGLING SOCIETY.

The ordinary weekly meeting was held on Tuesday evening at the Masons' Hall Tavern, Masons' Avenue, Basinghall Street, Mr. Bentley in the chair. The minutes were read and confirmed. Letters were read from the Central Association and from the National Fish Culture Association—the latter in respect to the cases which the society are lending from their collection to the forthcoming Health Exhibition. The chairman presented a very useful volume to the library, for which a vote of thanks was unanimously accorded to him. A discussion took place on the recent withdrawal of privilege tickets on the South-Western Railway, and the likelihood of their being withdrawn on other lines. Several members expressed their opinions of the great hardship this course would inflict on the poorer class of anglers especially, and the following resolution having been proposed by Mr. Crumplen, and seconded by Mr. Young, was put to the meeting, and carried unanimously:—"That this Society regrets to hear that the authorities of the South-Western Railway Company have withdrawn the concessions to anglers, which is a source of great inconvenience to many who fish the Thames during the trout season, which commenced on the 1st of April. This Society believes that this withdrawal was made under a misapprehension of the facts of the case, and trusts that the concessions will again be made as heretofore to the three Associations, as they believe the reports of the misuse of the tickets to be much exaggerated." The secretary was instructed to forward a copy of this resolution to the Traffic Superintendent of the South-Western Railway. Mr. Frederick Ohlson was unanimously elected a member of the society, and a vote of thanks having been passed to the chairman, the usual musical selections brought the evening to a close.—H.

INDEPENDENT JOVIALS.

This society held the inaugural supper on Monday evening, the 21st inst., at the Waterman's Arms, Richmond, to distribute the prizes, which were very numerous. Among them was a guinea rod, by Gaynor and Son, given by Mr. H. Marston; a timepiece, given by the worthy host, Mr. Still; also a Nottingham reel and line, given by Gaynor and Son, of Richmond; and several other good prizes, which gave the members great satisfaction. A varied repast was served by the worthy host, Mr. Still, and the members spent a thorough good night, and hope to do the like again very soon.—C. SMART, sec.

LE'CESTER JOLLY ANGLERS.

The annual dinner of the Leicester Jolly Anglers' Society was held on Friday, at the head quarters, Mr. Chamberlain's, the Earl of Leicester Inn, Infirmary Square. The repast was admirably served by the host, and after the cloth had been drawn the prizes were awarded to the following members:—Perch, J. T. Hardy, 1; G. Broadhead, 2; W. Marshall, 3. Roach, J. Pole, 1; J. Greenwood, 2; T. Condon, 3. Dace, G. Gask, 1; H. Starkey, 2; H. Measures, 3. Chub, J. Mee, 1. Whiting, D. Sheriff. Pike, G. Chamberlain, 1; Jas. Cave, 2; G. Gee, 3. After the distribution of prizes, the evening was devoted to conviviality, the efforts of Messrs. Marshall, Pole, and C. W. Cave being very successful. Mr. Marshall, who occupied the chair, towards the conclusion of the evening proposed the health of the host and hostess, and Mr. Chamberlain, in responding, said he was greatly devoted to outdoor sport of several kinds, and his experience served to show him that outdoor amusements were greatly conducive to good health. It was always a great pleasure to provide for the wants of those engaged in outdoor pastimes on any occasion. Mr. Starkey, the secretary, proposed the health of "The Jolly Anglers' Club" and this being responded to, a very enjoyable evening was brought to a close.—W. MAJOR.

MARLBOROUGH ANGLING SOCIETY.

The above Society held its first annual supper at the Marlborough Head, Marmont Road, Peckham, on Thursday, the 17th inst., when eighteen sat down, Mr. Edmunds (in the unavoidable absence of Mr. Hawkins) in the chair, and Mr. Kearnes in the vice-chair. After the cloth was removed, Mr. Kearnes took the chair, and Mr. Corder the vice-chair, and the following toasts were given:—"The Queen and Royal Family"; "The Marlborough Angling Society"; "The Visitors, coupled with the name of Mr. Widdrington"; "The Chairman and the Vice-Chairman"; "Mr. Boorman, the father"; and "Mr. Corder, the eldest son of the Society"; "Mr. and Mrs. Williamson," with musical honours; and "The Secretary," with musical honours. After the toast of "The Queen and the Royal Family," the Secretary detailed the prizes, viz.: (1) A handsome jack-rod, by Mr. Williamson, as first prize for the heaviest weight of jack; (2) a landing-handle, with ring, &c., as second prize; (3) 2s. 6d. as third prize, by Mr. Boorman. The first was won by Mr. Boorman, the second by Mr. Agland, and both were presented on the 21st February; the third was not won. (4) Mr. Fawcett half a guinea for the largest roach, taken during the season; (5) Mr. Fawcett, half a guinea for the largest perch taken during the season; (6) Mr. Hawkins, half a guinea for the heaviest weight of fish taken on any one day in a week during the season; (7) Mr. Gold, fishing tackle maker, of the Waterloo Road, a bottom-fishing tackle case, as a consolation prize. Mr. Fawcett's prizes for the largest roach and the largest perch, and Mr. Hawkins's heaviest-weight prize, were all three won by Mr. Boorman, and Mr. Boorman's second jack-prize, by Mr. Agland; Mr. Gold's consolation prize remained for competition all the commencement of the next season. The chairman then presented Mr. Boorman and Mr. Agland with the prizes just mentioned, and Mr. Boorman said that although he was gratified at receiving the prizes, he regretted other members had not taken some of them, which he attributed to their not having had sufficient perseverance; but he hoped they would do better next season. The toast of "The Visitors" was responded to by Mr. Widdrington, who said that he was an angler and should like to become a member of the society, and then he would try very hard to beat the successful Mr. Boorman; if he couldn't catch fish at the top of the water he would go underneath. (Laughter.) Mr. Williamson expressed his pleasure at the

manner in which the toast of himself and his wife had been received, and that their efforts as caterers had been so successful. The secretary, being bashful, was unable to make a speech, and sang "The King of the Forest Glade" instead. During the evening some excellent songs and recitations were given, among them a recitation by Mr. Oscar Warren, a member of the Gresham Angling Society, who gave "The Halfpenny Roll," depicting the suffering of the very poor with great effect. Everything passed off uncommonly well, and the members and visitors were so well pleased that they expressed a strong wish to open the next season as they had closed the last, with a supper.

NEWCASTLE AND GATESHEAD IZAAK WALTON ANGLING ASSOCIATION.

On Good Friday nearly the whole of our members fished different parts of the Tyne, but the lowness of the water and the prevailing east wind did not enable them to make anything like good baskets. On the same day, four of the members fished the North Tyne at Barrsford, when better sport was met with, verifying the old saying, "Farther up the burn the better the trout." The party showed some capital trout on their return home at night, all taken with the March brown. Mr. Lamb fished at Hexham, on the Tuesday, showing on his return eight trout. Mr. Armstrong at Ovingham, on Saturday afternoon: four very good trout. Unless we have some rain these next few days there will be no fishing here for some time to come.—J. MAJOR.

SOUTH-EASTERN ANGLING SOCIETY.

At our regular weekly meeting there was a goodly attendance, considering the close season. A fair amount of business was got through, and matters of import were discussed, more especially the question of "privilege," which is a serious point to us all. I hope and trust that every genuine angler will look to his interest in profit and loss at this juncture. A special meeting is convened for the transaction of important business on the 30th inst., when it is hoped all will attend, as the rules are about to be revised; and I may say here that our Annual Dinner takes place on May 15th, tickets for which can be obtained of the worthy hos', J. Frith, or secretary, on application, to a limited number. All anxious for coming season. Wishing you prosperity.—T. H. H. WESTON, secretary.

THE PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

A large number of members attended the weekly meeting of this society on Monday last, at Ashley's Hotel, Covent Garden. Mr. James L. Meyer was voted to the chair. Amongst those present were—Messrs. Blundell, Brown, Boover, Sachs, Harden, Gillatt, Dr. Brunton, Fennings, Pattison, Lemann, Sparrow, Gray, Walser, Rev. G. Sumner, Brougham, Hatfield, Jesse Crumplen Bennett, J. Lander (hon. sec.), Adlington, Goodger, T. Huggett, &c., &c.; and amongst the visitors were—Messrs. Deller, W. P. Crumplen, H. Harden, &c. The minutes of the meeting held on the 7th inst., were read and confirmed. A long discussion ensued as to this society exhibiting some cases of fish at the National Fish Culture Association of the forthcoming Health Exhibition. Dr. Brunton moved and Mr. Fennings seconded "That the question be referred to the committee, and that a special committee meeting be called thereon." Carried. Mr. Lemann proposed and Mr. Sachs seconded the nomination of Mr. W. Deller. There was a very nice Thames trout on the table, shown by our member, Mr. E. Walker, in fine condition, weighing between 3 and 4 lb. The weather was exceedingly cold and rough, yet, nevertheless, in the first hour, spinning, he caught two jack and a chub, which were duly returned to the water. And, later in the day, Godden plotted him to the fish on the table. This is the second fish captured by Mr. Walker this season; and, in proposing his health as the successful angler, the members wished him the good luck to catch another and larger one. He responded, thanking the members for the cordiality with which his health had been drank, and promising to do his best to secure the larger fish before referred to. Mr. Adlington has been fishing in Hertfordshire, but with poor success on account of the severity of the weather. The question of the railway privilege tickets was next warmly discussed, Dr. Brunton expressing an opinion that there were enemies in the camp somewhere. Mr. Lemann inquired if the hon. sec. had received notice from either of the associations as to the withdrawal of the privilege tickets, to which the hon. sec. replied, "No." And Mr. Pattison said he was quite convinced that while anglers kept up the spirit of the arrangements entered into between the railway companies and the associations, no withdrawal would take place; but, on the other hand, if these tickets were and had been abused, the companies would probably withdraw them. The Rev. G. Sumner, speaking as an individual member, doubted if such tickets were really a privilege to the Piscatorial Society, and his remarks were applauded. Taken altogether, this question seems to be an open one here, some of the members being warmly for, and always using, the tickets on their angling excursions, while others will have nothing whatever to do with the privilege tickets. No resolution was arrived at on the subject. The chairman proposed "The Prosperity of our Society," which was drank as usual, standing. Mr. Goodger, in a few well-chosen words, proposed the health of "The Chairman," for which that gentleman duly returned thanks, and the meeting terminated.—T. H.

TUNBRIDGE ANGLING CLUB AND FISH PRESERVATION SOCIETY.

The ninth annual meeting of the above society was held at the Bull Hotel, Tunbridge, on Wednesday evening, when Mr. T. Elliott, of Tunbridge Wells, one of the vice presidents, occupied the chair, and was well supported by members and riparian owners. The report of the committee showed that the objects of the society in the prevention of poaching and preservation of the river from sewage contamination had been well sustained during the past year, and that the greatest assistance and kindness had been received at the hands of the riparian owners, who were cordially thanked. During the twelve-month two men had been convicted of netting, one for fishing in the more strictly preserved portion of the fishery without a ticket. The otters had been very destructive, and no less than three had been killed since the last annual meeting. During the year 4,500 carp and roach had been introduced into the river, making the total number 30,000 turned in during the past four years. An earnest appeal was made for increased support: to enable the committee to enlarge the scope of the operations in stocking and breeding fish. The officers for the year were elected as follows:—President and hon. treasurer, Mr. A. T. Beeching; vice presidents, Messrs. J. Sills, Charlton, E. J. Garham, and T. Elliott; hon. secretary and water-bailiff, Mr. E. Hollomby; hon. assistant sec., Mr. W. A. Kirby, and a representative committee of sixteen members. Several matters were introduced by members, such as amalgamating with the Maidstone Club, &c., but they were referred to the committee to deal with.—YE MRDWAY WATER RAT.

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OF EVERY DESCRIPTION OF FISHING TACKLE.

James Ogden's Newly-Invented Premier Spinner,

Regd. Nov. 13th 1883. This Bait is constructed upon an entirely new and
improved principle. Salmon, 6s. 6d.; Trout, 5s.; smaller do., 3s. 6d.
Silver or Gil.

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The enormous and increasing demand for which is a sufficient guarantee for the high
estimation in which they are held by the leading anglers of the day.
All Standard Flies ordered, or dressed correct to pattern, will be despatched by return of
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Things Wanted—to BUY, to SELL, or to EXCHANGE.

N.B.—We take no responsibility whatever in connection with advertisements inserted
in this or other parts of this paper; but beg our readers to expose any case of im-
position. The prices for inserting advertisements in this "EXCHANGE"
Column are 6d. per line for one, or 4d. per line for more than one insertion.
Address Manager, FISHING GAZETTE, 12 and 13, Fetter Lane, London, and send
stamps with the order, or the advertisement cannot be inserted.

WANTED.—Particulars and prices of Secondhand Books on Angling and Fish Culture.
Must be in good condition—Address Editor, FISHING GAZETTE, 12 and 13, Fetter Lane,
London, E.C.

WANTED.—Aquarium, glass, in iron frame, state dimensions and price. A. C. Finney,
chemist, Brigg.

Trout Flies to patterns, or instructions, 8d. per dozen. See Editor's Notice, March 22nd
1884. J. Palmer, Littleworth, Redditch.

Splendid Trout Flies, 83. per dozen.—J. Palmer, Littleworth, Redditch.

Yarde's New Combination Pannier, new, sell 3s. 6d. Lewis, 17, Warwick St., Pinllico.

To BOIL SOLES.—Take three quarts of spring water and a handful of salt.
When it boils put in the soles and let them boil gently for ten minutes. Dish
them up in a clean napkin with anchovy or shrimp sauce.

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RIVER REPORTS.

TIME OF HIGH WATER IN THE THAMES.
To find the time of high water in the Thames at any of the following places,
to the time of high water at London Bridge (given below).

	30 minutes for Chelsea.
Add	40 " Putney.
	45 " Hammersmith.
	50 " Barnes.
	55 " Kew.
	75 " Richmond.
	80 " Twickenham.
	85 " Teddington.

Example:—If it is high water at 2 o'clock at London Bridge, it will be high
water at Teddington about 3.25, or eighty-five minutes later; but it must be
remembered that a strong wind accelerates or retards the tide very much.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.

		Morning.	Afternoon.
For Saturday,	April 26	1.58	2.20
Sunday,	" 27	2.43	3.7
Monday,	" 28	3.30	3.53
Tuesday,	" 29	4.17	4.41
Wednesday,	" 30	5.5	5.30
Thursday,	May 1	5.56	6.23
Friday,	" 2	6.53	7.23

NOTE.—Trout fishing on many of the South of Eng and streams commence
May 1. Probable High Tides from April 26 to 29. New Moon April 25

THE LOWER THAMES.

Up to the present time there have been no trout taken this week in the "Ci y
Waters." John Johnson, sen., writes from Kingston:—"The e has been but
little trout fshing this week. The north easterly wind has been too cold, and
the trout have only been seen at odd times. I had three hurs on Wednesday,
and then gave it up, the weather was so cold. My son has been out three
times, and, I believe, only rose one fish." Another correspondent higher up
the river says:—"There have been no trout taken; plenty have been seen, but
the weather is so cold the anglers cannot catch them." There can be no doubt
without a change of temperature trout catching will be difficu't.

UPPER THAMES.

The river is now in excellent colour for trout-fishing, but the cruel north-east
wind which has prevailed for the past three weeks has rendered the water so
icy cold as to preclude any respectable fish from feeding. Anglers who have
ventured out in the upper waters have here and there nobbled a fish or two,
but not one to my knowledge over 3 lb. These are, of course, big fish for most
streams, but Thamesites look upon them as infants, which it is hardly sports-
manlike to take away from their mother element. To-day (Thursday) the sur-
has had sufficient power to warm up both fish and water, and some sport may
be safely contemplated now the we is no clouded, especially if the wind
will but get out of the quar er which proverbially is neither good for man
nor beast.—MARLOW BUZZ.

Sonning.

The commencing of trouting began very well, though the weather was not
very bright. While Mr. Huggett was with me last week we heard that there
had been an 8 lb. trout taken by Mr. Bright. We walked over the bridge, and
we never saw a nicer one. Mr. Bright, a few days after, in the same place, got
another weighing 6 lb. Both were caught in front of the lock gates, in quiet
water, the last one just after a steam tug had gone by. There was another
8 b. one taken, which I saw in a fish shop, and Mr. Lee caught three, the
largest 3 lb., so it shows there are some about. We only want some fine
weather, when I hope to hear of some more 8 b. ones being taken, for there
are several about which have been seen. There have been some rare jack taken
spinning, which of course had to be put back.—W. HULL
[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

Datchet.

Since I wrote last the water has fined down in good condition for trout
fishing, notwithstanding the cold easterly winds that have been blowing. The
trout have been feeding, for I have seen them, but little fishing has been done.
On the 10th, J. Hoare caught a very handsome fish, 6½ lb., close to Datchet.
On the 13th, a gentleman fishing with C. Hone, of Staines, one of 3½ lb. in
the fleet, and lost another. At Windsor, a great many small fish are being
caught. It is to be hoped they fall into real sportsman's hands, or we know
their fate. I had seen lots of fish feeding last week—real beauties—but did not
try for them, but I have come to the end of my patience waiting for chance
customers that never turned up. On the 20th I resolved to have another turn;
caught a beauty 7 lb., and he was a fish I had just seen rise. I went home
contented without trying any of the others I had seen previously; they must
be far more numerous than the most sanguine are aware of. Another month
over and then they are not worth the going after, as they begin to get lazy and
won't feed so much as at present.—G. LUMSDEN.

Ancholme District.

Owing to the continuance of cold easterly winds anglers have had no heart for trout-fishing, and but little has been done. There are still but few aquatic flies about. The land flies are, however, more numerous during the heat of the day. The chief of these are the coddung fly, and a small black one of the house fly class. The largest dish of trout I have yet heard of was taken by Mr. Peace and friend, of Broughton Vale, the other day. They had 35, eleven of which being small, were, as they always ought to be, returned. The cold weather has caused my jaunt to the Bain to be put off until the advent of more congenial times.—THOMAS FORD, Caistor.

Camel River and District (Camelford).

The river is now in good condition, and has been for the last month. The water is not by any means low, nor in the many streams to be found in the district. Large baskets have been taken without any difficulty whatever, containing fish of very fair size and quality. Ladies and gentlemen fond of fishing should visit this neighbourhood, bringing with them fine fishing lines and flies of small make. The fishing, together with the moor and mountain scenery, would be found delightful. Good hotel accommodation. Flies.—Silver blue, female yellow dun, quill gnat, and early brown.—H. O. PENGELEY.

Coquet (Weldon Bridge).

Since my last report we have had the wind from the east, and cold, bleak weather more like December, and the sport very poor for the angler. The best baskets from three to five brace. On Wednesday it snowed from daylight up to 10 o'clock, from the south-east, which calmed the air, but the wind settled back to the east towards evening. There will be no good fishing until there is a change of weather. The Rev. Mr. Oliver has been on the Tweed for the last week, but I do not know what sport he has had.—A. GLASS.

Dee and Don.

The clearness and smallness of the river, the cold easterly winds, and the few fish in the pools, accounted for the falling off in the takes on the lower and middle reaches of the river during the past week. Where anything like respectable catches were obtained that most unsportsmanlike lure, the natural minnow, invariably contributed to the result. It is gratifying, however, to learn that on some of the higher reaches, fly fishers are more than holding their own. Notably is this the case in the Ballater District, where some gentlemen have been doing immense slaughter, by using the Pitfour, Logie, bumble bee, and March brown, in size from half an inch to an inch. The Gordon is always topping the list as an evening lure. Notwithstanding the immense number caught in the upper and remotely upper reaches, the pools thereabout are still abundantly stocked. Many keltis are yet in the water 30 to 40 miles up the river. We are quite astonished to see so many, and land some the other week, so far from the sea. There has been no fresh rain to incline them to move downward. No appearance of any grilse on the coast yet. Yellow trout are doing pretty well on the Don just now. On the Thainston, Fintray, and Parkhill waters baskets varying from 10 to 30 lb. are being got day by day. The keeper at Thainston is having really splendid sport, hardly ever securing less than 15 lb. a day. Our Don correspondents have quite forgotten us this week. Dee takes appended. Report of Wm. Blacklaws and Son, rod makers and fishing-tackle manufacturers, Kincardine O'Neil. River very low and clear. The few fish that are in the pools will not look at anything. Takes: Carlogie.—Saturday, Sir William Fielden, Bart., 1 fish, 10½ lb.; Monday, Dr. Hobson, 1 fish, 10 lb. Desswood.—Thursday, John Harper, 1 fish, 12 lb. Report of George Smith, Esq., Ballater, tackle maker, Invercauld Arms Hotel Water.—Friday, Mr. Donaldson, jun., 2 fish, 7 and 9 lb.; Wednesday, Colonel Chambers, 1 fish, 6 lb.; Thursday, Colonel Keen, 1 fish, 8½ lb.; Saturday, J. Donaldson, Esq., 3 fish, 7, 9, and 11 lb.; Monday, 21st, 7 fish, 7, 7, 8, 9, 10, 10, and 10 lb.; Colonel Chambers, 3 fish, 8, 8½, and 9 lb.; Friday, Mr. Bryce, 2 fish, 9 and 18 lb. Cambus O'May.—Very good sport during the whole week. On Saturday, Mr. Broadhurst and a friend (two rods) had 9 fish, from 7 lb. to 16 lb. Monaltrie.—F. Pickop, Esq., 15 fish during week, 7 to 11 lb.; T. G. Seymour, 4 fish, 6 to 10 lb.; Dr. Ogilvie, 2 fish, 8 and 9 lb. Monday (21st.), F. Pickop, Esq., 3 fish, 8, 8½, and 9 lb.; Dr. Ogilvie, 5 fish, 7, 8, 8½, 9 and 10 lb. Banchoy and Lower Districts: Park.—Monday, A. D. Clark, Esq., 1 fish, 9 lb.; Tuesday, 1 fish, 8 lb.; Saturday, 1 fish, 9 lb.; Wednesday, Aug. Grimble, Esq., 2 fish, 8 and 9 lb. West Durris.—Monday, Captain Craigmile, 1 fish, 14 lb.; Tuesday, Captain Stewart, 1 fish, 10 lb. Drum.—Thursday, A. M. Aitken, Esq., 1 fish, 8½ lb.; Friday, 1 fish, 8 lb. Inverly.—Monday, A. Wright for General Oliphant, R.E., 1 fish, 8 lb. Kineskie.—Thursday, Mr. Dawson 1 fish, 9 lb. Inchmarlo.—Saturday, Mr. Patten, 1 fish, 8 lb. Dr. McDonald and party on the Durris Home Water are enjoying magnificent sport. Aboyne District, Aboyne Castle Water.—Wednesday, Lord Granville Gordon, 2 fish, 9 and 10 lb.; Thursday, 2 fish, 9 and 11 lb. Huntley Arms Hotel Water.—Monday, D. Cayley, Esq., 1 fish, 9 lb.; Tuesday, 5 fish, 6, 7, 9, 11, and 12 lb. Wednesday, Colonel Telford, 2 fish, 7 and 10 lb. Huntly Lodge Water.—W. Dunn and John Harper, 2 fish, 9 and 10 lb. Cairnton.—T. Farley, Esq., and Col. Cockran, 4 fish for week. Woodend.—Saturday, Watson, keeper for Major Traherne, 2 fish. The Don.—Kintoreburgh Water.—Thomas Watt, Esq., 1 fish, 9 lb.; Mr. Hugh Macdonald, 1 fish, 6 lb.; J. B. Keith, Esq., 1 pike, 6 lb.; W. J. Boggie, Esq., 2 fish, 11 and 18 lb. respectively. Monday, J. Forbes, keeper, Thainstone, trout, 15 lb.; Tuesday, 12 lb.; Thursday, 28 lb.; Friday, 20 lb.; Saturday, 17½ lb. Saturday, W. Murdoch, Esq., yellow trout, 29 lb.; J. H. Bott, Esq., Corsindae House, 2 salmon and a few fine baskets of trout during the week. Parkhill Water.—On Mr. Hugh Macdonald's section splendid sport has been obtained. On Balbathan a few fish were got during the week.—W.M.

Dove.

The week has been most disappointing. I expected we should have a large number of anglers out, and that owing to the condition of the river sport would be first-rate, but in both items the very reverse has proved the case. The wind has been blowing east and north-east since Sunday, the skies have been of a discouraging leaden colour, and rain has kept falling at most irritatingly short intervals. I don't wonder at rodsters remaining at home. There has been no comfort or happiness at the water side, for the blasts on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday cut like a knife. Trout have not risen with anything like freedom, and I don't think anybody has captured sufficient to repay him for the trouble. The fish appear half dormant, possibly as much affected by the severe cold inside the water as piscators were outside the water. In fact, the week has been all but a barren one, and the sooner it is forgotten the better. Should the weather take a turn and become milder, the yellow April and cockwing duns, the coddung, and the March brown will kill best during the next fortnight.—THE SPLODGER.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

Bitterly cold weather has again prevailed all this week, there having been a continuance of the east wind. On Tuesday and Wednesday nights we had sharp frosts, ice this (Thursday) morning having formed nearly a quarter-of-an-inch thick. The rise of trout has been very limited and there is at the present moment no fly on the water. We have had very few anglers out, and I really don't wonder at it, for there has certainly been no comfort or pleasure at the riverside. A fortnight ago the birds were singing famously. This week they are nearly mute, and, late as it is getting, few of the feathered migrants have made their appearance. A few trout have been killed with the artificial minnow, and with the cockspur worm, bottom fishing; but this is about all. The general takes have certainly not averaged above four brace per rod. A change in the weather is ardently longed for.—THE SPLODGER.

Eden (Carlisle).

Angling has been at a very low ebb for the last ten days. The river is now at summer level, and clear as crystal. Had the weather been warm trout would have taken the creeper; but they are not really in the streams yet, so that this deadly bait cannot be used to advantage. The only decent dish of trout I have heard of was one of 12 lb., which Mr. Slater killed with the fly on Saturday; but he tells me it required hard work and very fine fishing to manage it. He also killed a salmon on Wednesday evening, and Mr. W. G. Stubbs landed one in the Esk on Monday. Rain, rain is now the universal cry from both farmers and anglers; but there is no sign of it at present. The wind seems to be fixed in the east, and the nights are frosty. I have just heard that Mr. T. T. Murray, R.N., killed a fish of 16½ lb. on Wednesday at Lyke Foot. SILVER GREY

Exe and Barle (Dulverton).

The prevailing cold easterly wind brought with it ten degrees of frost on Tuesday night; such being the case, little sport can be expected; the sun is also bright during the day and the water very low. Small baskets of trout are now the rule and they are losing condition; the best fly is the blue upright.—C. W. NELDER.

Exe (Exeter).

Some salmon were taken at Salmon Pool in the early part of the week, and Mr. Routeley caught four near Sir Stafford's Bridge, all over 10 lb. each. Wind still north-easterly, and seems settled there, to the detriment of piscatorial and agricultural pursuits combined.—J. A. KELLEY.

Exe (Tiverton).

The river is very low and clear and little is doing. On Tuesday evening trout sported well for a short time; one angler caught 10 very good fish, scaling over 5 lb., the largest being 1 lb. 4 oz. Weather still bright with a N.E. wind. The barometer has a tendency to go down. A good downpour to move the water would improve the fishing.—WM. MUDFORD.

Ilfracombe.

Sea fishing during the past few weeks has been very slack, though the weather has been mild, still the fishing was anything but good. This week there is some improvement; a gentleman, fishing with hand lines from off the jetty, caught several pollack, and E. German, fishing from the flat rock off the Capstone, has caught some whiting pout, while those fishing from the boats have had small catches of pout and pollack. Tuesday, the trawling skiff, *Petrel*, brought up from the bay 103 lb. of soles, plaice, and gurnard, and some thornback. Several fine lobsters have been caught, and to-day (Thursday) the skiff, *Vigilant*, has brought up 22 lb. of soles, 94 lb. of plaice, a large hake, and 2½ dozen of thornback. Weather, fine and prospects good.—E. COMER.

Lea (Ware).

That there will be some good trout fishing here, there is not the least doubt, as I myself saw four good fish feeding between the Tumbling Bay and the Boom; they were chasing the bleak, one large one, not less than 6 lb., feeding right under the bridge. Anglers visiting Hertford should beware of Buller Stambridge, as he has been caught with a large net and a bag of roach. The net was condemned, and Mr. Buller fined 15s. and costs. This is the sort of man that lives on anglers the main part of the year.—PIPE CLAY.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

Lugg and Arrow.

These streams could not be in better order for fishing than they are at present, both being clear and in splendid order for the fly. The best killing fly in this part is the blue dun, at which the fish are biting well. There have been some very good fish taken in both these streams this week. In the Lugg, on Friday, the fish were rising well and a gent landed a nice basket, some weighing 1 lb. each, with the blue dun. In the Arrow a nice lot of trout were taken the same day. In the Arrow, on Saturday, some good fish were landed with the fly, averaging from ½ lb. each. A gent visited the water on Monday with the fly and had some very good sport, taking a good lot of trout, weighing 6 lb. the lot. In the Lugg, on Tuesday, a nice lot of fish have been landed with the fly, and a very good dish was taken from the Arrow the same day. A gent tried the Arrow on Wednesday morning with the fly. He had some luck in landing some very good fish in splendid condition. The Lugg was tried by several anglers the same day, but had very little sport. A few days ago some men were caught in the act of taking grayling from the water, but they were all prosecuted and heavily fined for the offence. The Pinsley is in good condition and some very good fish have been taken in it this week with the fly. There have been some nice fish taken in the Bodenham district this week. Fishing quiet in the Monkland water. Little doing in the Ivington district.—GWYNNE.

Moy and Lough Conn (Ballina).

Owing to a cold north-easterly wind the angling was only of a poor nature last week. Salmon and trout would not rise to a fly. When a rise was got, it was merely a lazy roll and nothing more. Mr. McGillcuddy killed one salmon, 14 lb.; Mr. E. G. Perry, two salmon; Mr. M. Ganghan, two salmon, 14 lb. and 18 lb.; Mr. S. O. G. McDermott, one salmon, 16 lb. A south-west wind with an occasional shower of rain would improve the angling very much.—FRANK HEARNS.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

Pickering (North-East Yorkshire).

Trout fishing in this district has been much retarded by the very cold weather we have lately been having. In spite of the cold, however, some good baskets have been made on the moorland streams to the north of this place; in the deeper and stiller waters southward fish have risen badly. The last few days olive duns have come out very strong. On the 12th we saw a fine pike, 6 lb., killed out of a trout preserve; she was in fine condition, bright as a shilling and

full of spawn. On the same day saw swallows for the first time this season. On the 15th saw the first green drake of the season. Wind north-east and bitterly cold.—NORTH-EAST.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

Suir and its Tributaries.

The fishing for the past week was scarcely up to the mark; easterly winds and low water prevented the fish from taking freely, although the river seldom was so fully stocked with salmon. Still, some good sport was had on a few favoured streams, notably the Knocklofty waters, where for five days the following "takes" were made:—Monday, Mr. Courtenay Boyle, two salmon, 18 lb. and 14 lb.; Captain Hamond, two, 21 lb. and 15 lb. Tuesday, ditto, one salmon, 14 lb. Wednesday, another 19 lb.; Mr. Courtenay Boyle, one 16 lb. Thursday, Mr. St. Aubyn, one 30 lb.; Captain Hamond, one 18½ lb.; Mr. Courtenay Boyle, two, 21 lb. and 20 lb. Friday, the best day of all, Mr. T. Hamond, three, 33 lb., 17 lb. and 10 lb.; Captain Hamond, two, 21 lb. and 8 lb.; Mr. Courtenay Boyle, one, 14 lb.; Mr. Bowen, one, 15 lb. In all 18 fish, weighing 323½ lb., or averaging 18 lb., an average seldom equalled in any river. Trout fishing is improving rapidly and the fish in excellent condition.—DORA.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

Teme (Ludlow).

The weather has been fine and bright during the week. Notwithstanding the frosty nights and the wind shifting about daily from north east to north-west, fishing has been pretty general in this locality, and anglers have met with fair success. Several good fish have been taken from the Teme. We saw several caught below Steventon, near to the Hereford Railway Bridge, on Monday, with the March brown. They averaged ¾ lb. each, and were easily taken. Some very nice trout were landed on Tuesday from the Ashford waters with the same fly. The crowding and stone fly were tried, but no fish rose to those flies, but took the March brown pretty eagerly. The same day the stone fly was tried by a gentleman in the rapid parts of the Ony, between Bromfield and Onibury, who quickly killed eight brace of splendid fish. Up the Clun there has been some very fair angling. The stone fly did some execution, but the March brown killed the most fish. I am informed that there is nothing stirring in Leintwardine quarter. Last week a gentleman visited the Letwyche above the Ludlow district, and caught 26 very nice trout. The same gentleman is now fishing the Rea in the Tenbury district. The Corve has had a few visitors, and what fish have been caught have been nice ones. The worm has proved destructive here.—S. LUDLOW.

Teme (Tenbury).

This stream still keeps in very good fishing order, being clear, but low. This part the last few days has been visited with a nasty cold east wind, which disheartened several of the anglers of this part, as it was their intention to have a good week's fishing; and had the weather kept warm there was every chance of some very good sport being had in this part. There has been several nice lots of fish taken with the blue dun and March brown, at which flies the fish bite freely. In the water on Friday some very good trout were landed with the March brown. On Saturday above Little Hereford Bridge some splendid fish were caught with the blue dun, averaging from 10 oz. each. A gentleman landed a nice lot the same day in the water below the town with the same fly. On Monday the water was tried by a gentleman with the blue dun, but had poor sport, as the wind was very strong and the fish would not bite; but he managed to land four small trout, all under ½ lb. A few nice fish were taken in the down water on Tuesday with the fly. Wednesday, the sun shining clear, the fish were sporting well at the fly; a nice dish was landed near the town. The Kyre and Rea are both in very good order. A nice lot of fish has been taken this week in the Rea, and a few in the Kyre. The Letwyche is in nice state for fishing, but there have been but few fish taken yet.—WORCESTER.

Torridge (Torrington).

Water getting very low, and the bright days and frosty nights are rather against the fishing. The strangers staying here manage to take few trout every day, and the weather is delightful for out of door exercise. A few good salmon have been taken by the local fishermen. PRACTICAL ANGLER.

Tweed and Teviot.

Salmon angling has since our last notice been almost nil, the rivers having run in very small, while the bright weather has also militated much against the angler. Both rivers would be much benefited by a heavy flood, which would help to improve the fishing, as well as to clear away the bottom growth and filth which have accumulated in the beds of the streams. The following are the takes recorded since last week:—Wednesday, April 9, on the Sprouston water, Mr. Charles Kerrs killed two salmon, both weighing 9 lb. Thursday and Friday were blank days on the lower water; but on the Floors Castle upper casts (belonging to His Grace the Duke of Roxburgh) the Hon. E. Marjoribanks, M.P., on the latter day, killed two salmon, one of 10 lb. and one of 11 lb. On Saturday, on the upper Ednam House water, Mr. J. Drummond killed one fish of 12½ lb.; on the upper water at Floors Castle, the Hon. E. Marjoribanks had one salmon of 14 lb. On Monday, April 14, nothing was done, but on Tuesday one salmon was killed on the Teviot. At the Heiton Mill Rocks casts on the Carham water, Mr. J. R. Hay Gordon, Liverpool, killed one salmon of 10 lb. Mr. Marjoribanks, on the Floors upper water, had two salmon, both of 9 lb. On the Sprouston water one salmon was killed. Berwick—Tweed Net Fishings.—These fishings have during the week slightly improved, and prices are, salmon and trout 2s. per lb. Trout fishing.—During the week many baskets of trout have been killed, amongst the most successful anglers being Mr. Crowhall, Newcastle, who on Hendersyde water had 10 lb. On the Eden, Mr. J. Anderson had 5½ lb. and 8 lb.; on the Carham water, Mr. T. Eume, Kelso, had 12 lb.; Mr. Guthrie, 5 lb.; Mr. Rodgers, 5 lb.; Mr. T. Johnston, 5 lb.; Mr. Barff, 6 lb.; Mr. M. Cutcheon, sen., 7 lb., all killed in the Teviot. The fish are in very good condition and rise freely during warm days.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

Usk.

On account of the river being low, and the water very bright, the anglers located at the Three Salmons' Hotel and in private lodgings have met with very little success this week. On Friday, the 18th, Colonel Waddilove landed a nice fish, 24 lb. weight, and on the following day Malcolm McNiel, Esq., took a 19 lb. one. The frosty nights and bright days, in conjunction with the low and clear water, have combined to frustrate the efforts of the angler, and with the exception of a fine fish, hooked and lost by G. C. Browne, Esq., on Wednesday, we have not heard of any sport. Although appearances on several occasions have indicated rain, we have not yet had a shower, and until

we get some rain, it will be futile to expect sport; but as soon as we have a rise of water, there will be plenty of new fish swarming the river.—ARGUS.

Wharfe (Yorkshire).

Cold easterly winds still prevail, which fact, combined with the river being as low as it generally is at Midsummer, is anything but conducive to good sport. I have not heard of a single fish being taken since Saturday last, on which day I tried for an hour or so in the afternoon, but my efforts were only rewarded by the capture of a solitary trout, a nice fish of 12 oz. It is not the slightest use attempting to kill anything until the weather changes and there has been a good fresh down the river.—FRANCIS M. WALBRAN.

Wye and Derwent.

The Easter Holiday piscators have been having a very bad time of it on both of the above rivers, for the weather the whole of the week has been bitterly cold, and the wind has been blowing north and north-east the whole of the week, which quite took the trout of the feed. Grayling have risen much better to the fly than trout have done; but with grayling being out of season, they have been returned to their native element again. Trout scarcely ever feed well on either the Wye or Derwent on cold, bleak days, the same as we have been having the whole of the week. There have been a good many fishermen down on both of the above rivers; but one and all of them have gone away with very light creels. We must have a thorough change in the weather before trout fishing is good on either of the above rivers.—GEO. JAS. EATON.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

Yare (Norwich).

Angling may be said to be at a thorough standstill. Even the most enthusiastic follower of "Isaac" seems to dread the treacherous east wind, which has so much to answer for, in regard to increased mortality amongst those exposed either by business or pleasure to its biting piercing blasts. The only item worth recording that I am aware of is, that Professor Day, fishing at Buckenham yesterday (Wednesday), caught forty good sizeable roach and a few which he returned to the water. I believe he is out again to-day, and trust he may be equally fortunate. The earthquake has been the theme which has occupied most people's attention, and when the news arrived in the evening, many here in our good old city remembered that in the morning about 9.15, they had experienced something quite unusual and unaccounted for. Evidently the disturbance covered a considerable area, though limited in its manifested violence. We all ought to be extremely thankful for the slightness of the shock. The annual dinner of the Yare Preservation Society took place this week, particulars of which I hope to send for publication in your next issue. Hail has fallen here to-day, and I hear of a heavy fall of snow as near as Mutford.—ROBERT MOLL.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The Editor begs to thank Mr. Bradfield for sending some copies of the rules of the King's Lynn Angling Association.

LANCWOOD.—Yes, for a single-handed trout rod we prefer a top of one piece of lancewood, and not too fine. Cane soon gets out of shape.—ED.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

THE RAILWAYS AND PRIVILEGE TICKETS.

SIR,—There have been so many indications in the statements of "I. C. U." of his having been personally in communication with the railway authorities, who have withdrawn, or threaten to withdraw, the privilege tickets, that I make bold to say he has had something to do with the fulfilment of his own "Prophecies."

The tickets are withdrawn on the pretence that they are constantly misused, which is exactly what "I. C. U." has all along stated, but failed to prove. I ask him to give us an estimate of the number of times the privilege tickets have been used; the number of complaints made to each association by railway companies (and by what companies made); the relative percentage of abuses to the number of journeys made; and see how this will compare with the experience of the companies with other classes of passengers. "I. C. U." will have no difficulty whatever in obtaining these particulars, and when he has them he will see how groundless his charges are. I say, Sir, from actual knowledge, attending as a delegate for a long time at the West Central, but more recently at the Central, that such an allegation as he has made is devoid of foundation. Complaints there have been, but they have been very few and far between in proportion to the number of journeys made, and of these some have been cleared up to the satisfaction of the companies themselves. I believe the entire number of cases reported to the Central Association during five years have only numbered two, and the East Central have only had two during its seven years' existence. The West Central have had a larger relative number, chiefly from the South-Western Railway; but the total, taken altogether, is infinitesimal compared with the number of journeys made by the holders of these tickets for years past.

I am not an opponent of "Amalgamation" on principle, although I object *in toto* to the only scheme yet put forward. What I still more object to is the un-English way in which this scheme, never yet brought forward in any official form, is being forced on the London anglers. For the London and South-Western Railway, or any other company, to grant a monopoly to any one association, and that association the one that has certainly been least able to control its own members, as statistics clearly prove, is, I think, not only wrong in itself, but against the interest of all concerned. The cruel aspersion on the character of anglers using these tickets, conveyed in the Company's letter, convinces me they are under some serious misapprehension, and I trust more information may show them, whatever they may think to the contrary, that Izaak Walton's opinion still holds good, and the "honest" angler has not yet passed out of existence.

Trusting to your kind impartiality for the insertion of this letter—I am, &c., T. CRUMPLEN.

12, Regent Street, S.W., April 23.

["I. C. U." is perfectly able to take care of himself, and we will leave him to answer Mr. Crumplen; but we say most emphatically, he is incapable of acting

so meanly as is insinuated by Mr. Crumplen, and further, has to our certain knowledge done every thing that was possible to aid London anglers for many years past.—ED.]

THE LONDON AND SOUTH-WESTERN RAILWAY AND THE PRIVILEGE TICKETS.

SIR—Kindly permit me to make it known to the anglers of London through your columns that the London and South-Western Railway Company have been compelled, by the frequent abuses of the anglers' cheap tickets, to withdraw them until the opening of the season—viz., the 16th June next. The company being reluctant to deprive the poorer anglers of this boon altogether, have kindly consented to the re-issue of the tickets on the above date on the understanding that for the future one association—viz., the West Central Association of London and Provincial Angling Societies will be held solely responsible for the proper observance of the regulations under which such tickets are issued by the company.

We are of opinion that with one ticket, and one responsible committee to control its issue, we shall, while giving every angler the opportunity of enjoying this privilege, be able to prevent its abuse.

We desire to ask anglers generally to co-operate with us by reporting any case of abuse which may come under their notice, and by being careful themselves in observing the regulations printed at the back of the tickets. It is only by the means of one ticket and one central control that any of these concessions can long be retained, and, therefore, our warmest thanks are due to the London and South-Western Railway for giving us this chance to regain their confidence, and at the same time enabling us to prove to other companies that abuses can be stopped by this means.

In conclusion I venture to anticipate that my committee will consider that any society having already paid an enrolment fee to either of the other associations, in order that it might enjoy this privilege, should be enrolled with our association without further payment.—I am, &c.,

H. J. TIBBATTS, hon. sec.,

West Central Association of London and Provincial Angling Societies.
The Portman Arms, Great Quebec Street, W.

DEATH OF MR. S. MORGAN.

SIR—It is my painful duty to inform you of the death of my esteemed friend and colleague, Mr. S. Morgan, chairman of the United London Anglers' Central Committee for twelve years, and vice president of the Anglers' Benevolent Society, and the Anglers' true friend. He expired at 1.30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 23rd, at his residence, 2, Marion Square, Pritchard's Row, Hackney Road.—I am, &c., R. GHURNEY.

P.S.—Following up my sad communication of to day, I have to add that the late S. Morgan was 42 years of age. The funeral will take place at Abney Park Cemetery on Tuesday next, April 29th, at 2 o'clock. He leaves a widow and three young children totally unprovided for.

RUNNING STREAM.

SIR,—We, men and boys, have been in the habit of fishing in a stream that runs from near High Wycombe through the Rye, and thence through the mead or marsh to Sandwater; here it is bounded on the one side by private lands, and the other side by the high road. May I ask, can anybody claim a purchased right, and so prevent the public from fishing from the road side? We humble "piscators" are shut out of all other fishing by Wycombe Angling Association. And now Mr. Vernon (Mayor) has given notice that he will prosecute any person so fishing without his leave. We shall be most obliged to you if you can give us the "law or liberty over streams."—I am, &c., GEORGE HARTON.

Loudwater, Bucks.

[If the owner of a property has only one side of a stream, he can only claim the right to fish from his side to the middle of the stream; if he has both sides the stream, of course it is his property, unless it is tidal water. We advise Mr. Barton to get up a deputation to the Mayor; that gentleman is a dispenser of justice, and should be glad to assist his poorer townspeople.—ED.]

MR. H. A. HALL'S ARTICLES

SIR,—There must be many amateur trout-fly tiers besides myself who hope that Mr. Hall will not allow his very able pen to become dry. His letters of 25th November, 1882, and 22nd March, 1884, on floating-flies with eyed hooks, and his recent notes on eighteen standard flies in your issues of the 22nd and 29th ult. leave us somewhat in that condition of feeling intended to be induced by Mr. Weller's love letter.

Whilst wishing to limit my present appeal to Mr. Hall's generosity to asking the favour of two or three supplementary items of explanation of his *modus operandi*, I venture to throw out, for your joint consideration, whether, in the march of modern piscatorial science, the time has not arrived for a dissertation on fly-tying which shall summarise the results of recent improvements in the noble art. We have text-books, but they are old. We want a new dissertation, written clearly and fully as to detail, treating the subject under various heads, such as the following:—(1) Fly-tying generally; (2) the different modes of tying as applicable to the various classes of flies and their use as floating or sunk flies; (3) materials for tying their kinds, representative values, properties and use; (4) dyes, their kinds and use, &c., &c. I venture to think, Sir, that such a dissertation appearing in your columns, roughly illustrated, would be of lasting value to very many readers.

It would also form a weekly nucleus of discussion and information for tiers, and afford to many an opportunity which they cannot get at the waterside. Moreover, in our case the "art is to conceal art," and as co-operative artists we desire to attain not a way, but the best way in our work.

Having liberated my soul on that matter, may I be allowed to ask Mr. Hall—1. How he settles the wings? How are they to be held, and how are the vice and hook to be placed?

The difficulty arises from his direction to pass the silk with the "right hand round the butt ends of the wings." Is not the vice in the way? Is there any other and better way than using the middle finger of the left hand as a "stop" on the silk?

2. Is any one form of fly vice better than another for the eyed-hooks?

3. What is the best knot by which to attach the gut to the eye?

Permit me in conclusion, to remark that in picking up, just as Mr. Hall did, the way "to tie a fly" almost entirely by myself (I have seen only one fly tied, and that by an amateur), I have never understood the reticence of certain

professionals, who act as if to any great extent the art could be a trade secret. The trade profits of fly-tying, I submit, will ever depend on no trade secret, but on the proficiency of the trade tyer on the one hand, and on the other hand on the inability to tie of the majority of fishermen through want of time, desire, patience, or materials.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
Mhilde, Duin April a3..b.a

H. GRIEBBLE.

A DESERVING CASE.

SIR,—There are doubtless many anglers and oarsmen who still remember the comfortable Anchor Hotel at Shepperton, and its generous and ever-willing and obliging land lady, Miss Eliza Steer. They will hear with regret that she has become sadly afflicted since her bankruptcy, which was brought about by her implicit reliance upon the bona fides of many of her customers who used the house. She is now a candidate for the 20th annual pension from the Royal Hospital for Incurables, West Hill, Putney Heath, at the ensuing election on the 30th prox., and is 64 years of age. I earnestly hope this timely appeal will prove of service to this excellent creature.—I am, &c.,

CREEL.

TROUT FISHING IN THE DEE AT CORWEN.

SIR—As I have to thank you through your columns for a most enjoyable holiday, perhaps a few particulars may be of interest to some of your readers who, like myself, are anxious to find a place where an enjoyable fishing holiday may be spent. I have only one answer, Come to Corwen. The scenery is simply grand, and the fishing is, I should say, considering the small charge that is made for preserved water, the best that can be got. I came down here thinking I might see a little trout fishing and perhaps have a cast or two and try to get my hand in, as I was quite a novice. The first thing I did on arriving here was to make inquiries if there was a good man in the town who would go out with me, and from whom I might glean some information. I was most fortunate in obtaining the services of Mr. Wood, of London-road, who, I may say, is one of the most experienced salmon and trout fishers on the Dee, and a man who is most happy to give every information as to the fishing. A hint here may not be out of place to any who may intend coming: Bring your rod and line with you, but for casts and flies take my advice and go to Mr. Wood. We have been fishing now since Good Friday, Sundays excluded, and up till to day (Tu-day) have succeeded in taking 42 brace of trout. Now this (considering we have started out each morning with the disheartening intelligence that there is a bitter east wind and very little water) is not so bad; and I am told that if there was only a fresh, that is, a little rain to swell the river a trifle, our takes would be double. The fish do not run large; but yesterday, out of 21, we had about ten that would average a little over a quarter of a pound. Now as to accommodation, Mr. Hughes, at the Eagles Hotel, provides every comfort, and very reasonably; he is also treasurer to the Corwen, Cynwyd, &c. trout preserve; tickets may be procured here. There is plenty of good fishing in the neighbourhood to be had free, but the Dee, I am sure, at 4s. per week, will repay any lover of the rod for his outlay. Trusting this may find a place in your valuable paper as a little information to any who may want to have a week's quiet trout fishing.—I am, &c.,
Eagles Hotel, Corwen, N. Wales.

W. M. HILL,

THAMES PROFESSIONAL FISHERMEN FISHING.

SIR,—I am sorry I did not send a report; but really I was not worth a stamp Thursday, but will always endeavour to be punctual as I know it to be as much my benefit as yours. Now, by your pleasure, I want a word with you about this trout fishing business. I have had no engagements for over a week. If people won't come and fish for them at all, I don't think they ought to find fault with a fellow for catching them, so much as I have tried to charm them to come. What follows you make a line or two of for next week's edition. I had three engagements past week, but they didn't turn up. I went round the fleet Saturday week to look out for a fish, and saw 2 rise. Sunday morning was disappointed. Them that engaged me didn't turn up. Yesterday (Sat.) I went over the weir again. I had my tackle with me. Saw 2 more fine ones not far from the others. Believe me, I didn't fish, but thought I'd wait and see if Saturday's post brought any engagement. This morning I says to my wife, "I must have one of them fish to day." I went to the punt in the ditch where it was left; began to wip for some bleak; see another fish move. The above mentioned are about $\frac{1}{2}$ up from this one. Says I must have you—about 4 lb. When I got mid stream I see him again to the left of me. My bait was at the right in the act of slewing it across stream. Another 8 lb. grabbed it, as handsome a fish as ever was seen. He took nearly all my line. I had to move anchor for him. When he got to the rise on the swift shallows he came up-stream again to the left of me. Anchor line under my foot, I dropped to stay—got him nearly to the punt. He took off again to the right on the shallows. Six or eight times I had to weigh anchor. Ones I lost feel of him altogether, the punt went so; dropped anchor, wound up sharp, and had him close to the punt, tearing up-stream; then I just caught sight of him, for I never saw him once on the top. Off down-stream again he goes into them boughs where the stream washes so hard; raised anchor again here, where I thought he must do me. Anyhow he made a good fight for it, backwards and forwards across the stream, never once showing himself to the end of the fleet. It banged all that ever I met with in a fish till I got him.—I am, &c.,

C. LUMSDEN, fisherman.

1, Percy Cottage, Datchet.

THE STRIKE FROM THE WINCH REEL.

SIR,—In answer to your correspondent, "N. E. L.," Yarmouth, I can put the patent to all kinds of winches except the common wood reels that have a screw nut on end of spindle. Wood and ebonite centre winches I apply the patent to. All orders must come through fishing tackle house, as I am strictly wholesale. The cost would not be much.—I am, &c.,
Birmingham, April 24.

REUBEN HEATON.

NATIONAL FISH CULTURE ASSOCIATION.

SIR,—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter in reply to my circular letter of the 3rd inst., inviting contributions towards the loan collection now being established by this association at the Aquarium, South Kensington. I am requested by my council to thank you for your promptitude in replying, and for your kind promise of co-operation and support. Will you please inform me, in course of post, what day this week it will be convenient for you to allow our loan to be removed to the Exhibition, when a van, with properly qualified

attendants, will call upon you for that purpose, or if this is impossible, other and satisfactory arrangements shall be made.—I am, &c.,

W. OLDHAM CHAMBERS,
Secretary N. F. C. A.

Exhibition Grounds, South Kensington, London, April 21st.

A NOTE FOR "F. R. C. S."

SIR,—I shall feel much obliged if "F. R. C. S.," the writer of the interesting notes on "Fly-fishing for Trout," will kindly give me a description of the fly rod he uses, as referred to in his letter in the FISHING GAZETTE of the 20th October last.—I am, &c.,
M. E. H.
49, Cazenove Road, N.

AN ADDITION TO THE SALMON FLY—THE "COLLEY," &c.

SIR,—With reference to Mr. Harbottle's letter in this week's GAZETTE, I am afraid the idea can hardly sustain the claim of originality.

In the spring of 1880, at Killarney, I saw a small triangle of a loop of gut, and on asking its use I was told that it was to slip on to the hook of a salmon fly when fish were "rising short."

With reference to Mr. Agger's plan for baiting with a wire run through the body of the bait, an almost identical plan has been in use on the Lee (Co. Cork) for baiting with the shrimp or prawn (not the "colley," Mr. Editor). This was shown to me in 1877, I think, by a well known Lee fisherman. I give both these gentlemen's names, but not for publication. With reference to your note as to the "prawn" (called the colley, in Ireland), I think, Mr. Editor, you are mistaken. The "colley"—pronounced "collagh"—(which means in Irish an old woman) is a small fish about the size of a minnow, and is, I believe, called the loach in England. Excuse me for correcting you.—I am, &c.,
GREEN WREN.

Newry, Ireland.

[We had for the moment forgotten the colley was the loach, though in the FISHING GAZETTE for March 13, 1880, we had the following note about it:—
"THE COLLEY."

"This is a favourite bait on the Lee and Blackwater. It is known as the Colley or Collagh in this country, but I daresay your readers will more readily recognise the bait as the 'stone loach.' The colley is generally fished in a high water or in a rapid stream. It is mounted on a large single hook on a swivel line, and is fished 'tween waters on the principle of the spinning bait."

As regards the other matters, we did not say they were quite new. "There is nothing new under the sun," we are told; but they are new to many of our readers. We have drawings of the wire spinning tackles in works a hundred years old, but it would serve no useful purpose to refer our readers to these works.—ED]

FISHING AT SALISBURY.

SIR,—It is not my intention to begin a "to be continued" sort of thing; but having promised your readers a little of my experience in the Salisbury and other waters, I will describe my very first visit there. Five years ago, on the 3rd of February, I arrived in Salisbury by train at night. Starting next morning at six, with simply a 12-foot pike rod line on Nottingham winch, gaff and plain medium spoon bait, and an artificial roach, after a walk of about fourteen minutes and various inquiries (being a stranger to the place), I found myself on Long Bridge (a long, narrow, wooden structure) spanning a beautiful run of water well stocked with trout, grayling, and dace, and after a walk of another eight or ten minutes I came to a building (known as the Bone Mill). Here is a very pikey-looking hole, which tempted me to try my luck; but the mill being stopped, I could not get a good spin, but at every cast I had the gratification of observing a nice little pike followed by a splendid trout of 8 or 10 lb., dodging the bait (which was the roach), but neither seemed to care for the breakfast I was so anxious to treat them to. I was about to try again when I was advised by two young gentlemen, who just then came up, to try higher up at the point where two streams meet, and told that if I did so I should be sure to kill a brace or two. So off I went, and striking the main river about half a mile up, I at once began, and gave a fair trial at every likely looking place, but found nothing until I came upon the junction of the two rivers. I could see at a glance that this was the place for fish, for every now and again the fry were flying in every direction. Taking a general survey,

I saw about 200 yards higher up a bridge crossing the Nadder. Wending my way thither. I crossed and came cautiously down to the point, and on taking a very careful peep from between some tall rushes, my heart leaped within me, the blood seemed to rush to my head, causing the perspiration to stand like peas on my forehead, despite a chilly morning; every nerve within me jumped and started, and for a moment I was like a man in a dream; but, quickly recovering myself, I was conscious of the presence of a large school of pike, from 2 to 8 or 10 lb., and was not long in deciding the next move. There was no choice of bait (having lost the roach at the Bone Mill) it was now spoon or nothing. The next step was to rid myself of high grass and reeds about my feet, leaving, as it were, a wall of reeds between me and the water. Next I overhauled about 50 yards of line, and wound it on very carefully. Then I neatly circled about 12 or 15 yards at my feet, very cautiously rose, cast the spoon straight across the stream, which was running rapidly, and brought it very carefully down to the hole about 10 yards from and below the point, and fairly into the juncture of the two rivers. The water was as clear as gin (good gin), and as the spoon came glittering into the deep there was a terrible commotion. The bait experienced a check, the line for a brief second, then a tug, and the line goes out (at almost the same pace as it would to a 20 lb. salmon), flying down stream; down he went. I at once saw his game, and gently reminded him not to go too far with an extra tap under the chin, which caused him to stop on his head, showing his tail about 8 inches out of water. This caused him to slightly alter his mind, and he came to a dead stop and at about 40 yards distant. How I wished the bridge was lower down that I might play my game below the bed of rushes. Sir John seemed to understand my thoughts, for he shot straight across to the opposite bank, and went up stream about 30 yards, when I quickly brought him to grass, a really pretty fish of 7½ lb. The next cast was rewarded with a smaller fish with not half so much good sense, for he would dodge about among his friends, whom I could see following him to within a yard or two of the gaff. This seemed to spoil the fun, as the next cast was not responded to, so I got out the consoling pipe and gave them a rest while I contemplated matters on an old basket which I found bottom up among the rushes.

My operations had so far been in the main stream on the left of me, so after resting and quietly putting things in order, I slipped the spoon across the stream to the right of me. This stream ran much slower, and being rather narrow I could not manage to get it more than 3 or 4 yards below the point without discovering myself, and then the cast was lost. I then managed to get it out about 15 yards lower down, which enabled me to bring it clean into the hole, the result being a fish of 4 lb. brought straight to bank; and so I continued in the greatest excitement with varying manoeuvres for about five hours, when I had caught nineteen fish, weighing in all 73½ lb., largest fish 8 lb. 4 oz., with a trout 1 lb. 10 oz. inside of him, beside eight small dace, &c. The last fish but one, which was the smallest, 1 lb. 7 oz., was three times attacked, and borne away some distance by a fish of evidently much greater weight.

My next turn, which was some weeks later, and among the trout, I will give you in a few days.—I am, &c.,
AVON TROUT.

WALWORTH PISCATORIALS.

Be it known, to all concerned, that the above will be the title of the Walworth Walonians and the Surrey Piscatorials from this date—these societies having amalgamated. On the 24th, a special meeting was called, for the purpose of electing officers. Among those present were—Messrs. Bayley, Boalch, Bansback, Beale, Beckett, Curtis, Delhay, Dale, Duck, Edwards, Fox, Gilbert, Hawridge, Hamlyn, Hibble, La Feuillade, Russell, Sutcliffe, Waters, Weatherhead, &c., and the following is the result:—Mr. Boalch, secretary pro tem.; Mr. Bayley, chairman for the evening. Mr. Weatherhead's proposition, that seven gentlemen be elected, five to form a quorum, for the purpose of revising the rules, was agreed to, and the following were elected:—Messrs. Bayley, Beckett, Duck, Weatherhead, Hamlyn, Mawby, and Gilbert. The first annual dinner of the "united" will take place on June 5th, Mr. Weatherhead in the chair, assisted by Mr. Duck. The "united" distribution of prizes will take place on the Thursday following. A hearty vote of thanks to Messrs. Boalch and Bayley brought the business to a close.—PIXIE.

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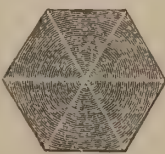
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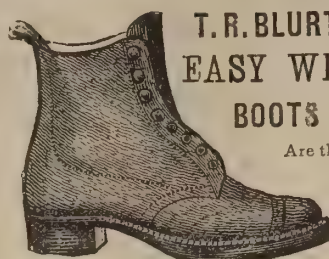
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Correspondents are requested to write on one side of the paper only, and give their real names and addresses, not necessarily as signatures to their letters, but as a guarantee of good faith. Unless this rule be adhered to, no notice will be taken of such communications.

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The Fishing Gazette.

SATURDAY, MAY 3, 1884.

THE NEW LEGISLATION ON FRESHWATER FISHERIES.

ON Wednesday evening last, Mr. J. W. Willis-Bund, LL.D., read an extremely interesting paper on the above subject before the Society of Arts, the chair being taken by Mr. Edward Birkbeck, M.P. Many well-known gentlemen interested in our fisheries were present. As we understand the lecture is to be published shortly, with additional matter, we shall reserve our notice of it.

After the reading of the lecture, Mr. Birkbeck invited discussion, and called upon Mr. R. B. Marston. Mr. Marston said, after the able exposition of the Freshwater Fisheries Laws which they had listened to from Mr. Willis-Bund, he did not think there was much left to say upon the subject; but he would much like to have the opinion of such an authority as the lecturer on one or two matters: first with regard to

THE EEL.

Previous legislation had left the position of this fish a very doubtful one, and he should be glad to know if the law, as now amended, would apply to the eel. Then as regarded the formation of

FRESHWATER FISHERY BOARDS.

Did the Act permit of the establishment of a Board for the purpose of controlling the fisheries on a river if the proprietors of those fisheries were averse to the establishment of a Board? Also, would the powers of such Boards not be limited to streams and such lakes and other waters as were connected with rivers by streams, and not to isolated waters unconnected with any stream?

THE LIVE BAIT QUESTION.

Mr. Marston said there existed much doubt on this matter, and he was frequently asked by fishing tackle makers and others if it was legal to sell live bait during the fence months.

Mr. Bloomfield referred to the increasing value of the eel fisheries in Ireland, and advised the cultivation of this fish for the market.

Mr. Senior spoke at some length on the subject generally, and paid a well deserved tribute to the great services which had been rendered to the fisheries of this country both by the lecturer and chairman.

After some remarks from other gentlemen, Mr. Willis-Bund replied to the effect that the eel was certainly included in the fish protected by the new Act; that the consent of proprietors of fisheries was not necessary before a Board of Conservators could be appointed; that ponds, lakes, and other waters unconnected with a river by a stream would not come under the jurisdiction of a board; and that although it was legal to take fish for bait only during the fence months, they were not exempted from the general prohibition of sale of fish during their fence months, and therefore to sell them was most probably illegal. He said of course he could only give his opinion, and there was a well-known saying to the effect that gratuitous legal advice was often of little value (laughter). A vote of thanks to the lecturer terminated the proceedings.

THE "MARSTON" TROUT-FLY ROD.

WE have received the names of several firms who intend to keep this in stock; but as Messrs. Allcock have been unable to get stock ready to meet orders in hand, they have asked us to hold over our notice till next week.

THE FISHERIES PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION AND THE POLLUTION OF RIVERS.

A MEETING of the council of this association was held at 13, Upper Belgrave Street, on Thursday, the 24th April. In consequence of the retirement, to the great regret of the council, of His Grace the Duke of Northumberland from the presidency of the association, after many years of valuable services to it, the chair was taken on this occasion by Martin Ridley Smith, Esq.

In view of the very ineffective legislation against the pollution of rivers, the meeting resolved to introduce at once a short Bill to amend in two important particulars the Rivers Pollution Prevention Act, 1876, namely:—(1) To empower any person, without previous leave, to institute proceedings against polluters; (2) To enact that a certificate of the Local Government Board should be no defence unless those shielding themselves under it were really doing something to abate the pollution, and not, as now, only putting the certificate "forward" as a mere excuse for doing nothing.

Mr. J. W. Willis-Bund, of the council, has very kindly consented to draft the Bill.

After some other business of only a formal character, the proceedings terminated.

ROUGHS ON THE THAMES.

WE are very glad to see that our energetic contemporary, *The Richmond and Twickenham Times*, has commenced a crusade against the manner in which roughs are allowed to conduct themselves on the river. What is the good of paying a high rent for a villa on the Thames, when you cannot go on to the lawn running down to the river without being compelled to listen to the brutal language of bargees and other Thames roughs? Who cares to subject ladies to the "foolhardiness, boat-destruction, and indecency" which now make rowing on the Thames between Kew and Moulsey such an unpleasant "pleasure"? The police would put a stop to this behaviour at once on land; but a rough with a half-inch board and 10 feet of water under him can be as drunk and dangerous as he likes.

We have often heard ladies in a boat subjected to the most vile language by a crew of half-tipsy "Arrys," who would not dream of daring to address them at all on land; then when two boat-loads of roughs meet there is a tremendous broadside of oaths and abuse—"chaff" they call it—which is made all the louder the further the boats get apart. It really is time that we had a river police to look after roughs, whether they are in boats, barges, or steam launches. Anglers and rowing men will certainly support any movement to do away with or mitigate the nuisance.

TWO THAMES TROUT IN AN HOUR.

MR. J. P. WHEELDON and Mr. F. H. Lemann were out trouting in the Thames the other day, with Harry Wilder as puntsman. It was a windy, soaking wet day, but Mr. Wheeldon succeeded in getting two very handsome Thames trout in splendid condition, weight 4 lb. and 8½ lb. respectively. The fish gave splendid sport on fine Nottingham tackle. The large one fought over twenty minutes. Mr. W. saw it feed a hundred yards down the stream, and he let half of his two hundred yards of fine silk twist out and hooked the fish at that distance from the punt.

FISHING NOTES IN THE ARDENNES.

AS the Ardennes is not much known to anglers (judging from the frequent queries in the sporting papers), I propose, Mr. Editor, from time to time sending you a few notes, which, I think, will be of practical use to lovers of fly-fishing.

I could send you pages of description of the splendid scenery and of the wonderful legends with which the Ardennes abound. Such is not my intention. I write for those who may be tempted to visit this most charming spot for angling. If I bestow praise on any inn, or any special fly, tied by anyone in particular, it is simply with the view of the information being of some practical benefit to those who may take a trip to the Ardennes. I hope to make many friends by these notes; I am certain I shall "enemies," as the majority of anglers who know the "good places" would rather they were kept dark than written in the pages of the FISHING GAZETTE.

I have frequently met men who would have liked to have had a run on the Continent for a month or so with their rod who have not known where to go, and the information in most of the guide

books being so scant as to be almost useless; it is for these, then, that I write chiefly, and will begin with Laroche, which is in the heart of the Ardennes.

After arriving at Brussels and doing the town, book to Melreux, by the Luxembourg line; change at Marloie. Journey from Brussels to Melreux, about $3\frac{1}{2}$ hours. Coaches run three times daily from Melreux to Laroche; distance 18 kilometres, which is done in about $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours, for the modest sum of 1s. 7d. Hotel du Nord, at Laroche, kept by the Brothers Meunier, will be found A 1; charge for room, living, &c., being only 3s. 4d. per diem for each person, which also includes as much beer as one wishes to drink at dinner and at supper time. A slice from the celebrated wild-boar of the Ardennes is enough to make the gods skip! The shooting in the winter is, I am told, first rate, and I can well believe it, as the country abounds with game of all sorts.

The river Ourthe flows through the town, and follows a zigzag course for about 65 miles. The fishing is open. The river contains plenty of trout and parr, roach, chub, and a few barbel. The angling for trout is not so good within a mile of the town as it is further away. The best angling is to be had between La Queue de Vache (the tail of the cow) and Jupille, and on to Marcourt in the direction of Melreux. Wiompont, up the river, is very good, and also for grayling in their season. La Queue de Vache is under three-quarters of an hour's walk, and the angler, if inclined, can take the coach back, which passes Marcourt about 11.30 a.m., or 5.30 and at 10 p.m., which lands him at the door of the hotel.

The weather for the last twenty days has been bad for angling. I have had the best sport with March browns, G. J. Eaton's little red bumble, and with Wells', of Edinburgh, woodcock and "Professor" flies. These last two, I may mention, I obtained from Mr. Wells on reading your remarks about them last year in the FISHING GAZETTE. I found them good killers in Switzerland also. The post has just brought me a packet of flies from Messrs. Hardy Brothers, of Alnwick, which look to be real gems.

Laroche, April 25th.

"SKIN THE FISH."

ALLEGED POACHING IN OULTON BROAD.

A CORRESPONDENT at Great Yarmouth, Mr. Harry Reeve, writes:—"I send you a paragraph from the *East Suffolk Gazette*, relative to night poaching on the Oulton Broad. If correct, it tends to strengthen my own opinion, as of late years I have been very unsuccessful in those waters. Surely something can be done to stop these men?"

The paragraph referred to is as follows:—

OULTON.

THE BROAD.—A correspondent writes to the *East Suffolk Gazette*:—"I am a London angler, and have been in the habit of visiting Oulton Broad, for the purpose of enjoying my change. The fishing there is now as bad as well can be, and I am frequently asked by my brother anglers how it is that so fine a piece of water should be so barren of fish not worth the trouble and expense of taking. My answer is—poaching, or taking fish in season and out of season, in an illegal manner in various ways. The pike are taken and destroyed wholesale, by night lines, in the most barefaced manner possible. Those men are well-known and should be prosecuted without mercy. The injury they do to the honest fisherman is incalculable. The plan with some is to take all the fish out, in any way they can. The London angler pays the place a visit. He has to pay for boat, bait, and attendance, something like 10s. a day, and very likely the very man who waits upon him moors his boat in a place where all the pike have been taken out by the very man waiting on him, by pike lines at night, and they are laid about wholesale. The sooner these men are detected, brought to justice, and well punished, the better for all parties. They ruin the sport of the visitors, they drive people away from the place, and lose money by their foolish illegal acts. If I find that these men are prosecuted and punished as they ought to be, I and many more will willingly subscribe to the Angling Protection Society at Beccles."

Those who have property which is in any way benefitted by money spent by visitors to any district are most unwise not to join together to prevent sport being ruined in this way.

THE LATE MR. S. MORGAN.

(We are indebted to Mr. R. Ghurney for the following account.)

THE funeral of our respected and lamented friend, Mr. Sam Morgan, took place on Tuesday, April 29th, at Abney Park Cemetery. He was born in Long Alley, Bishopsgate. His first start in life was as shopboy to Messrs. Summers, Houndsditch; and, by strict attention to business, was at last appointed manager, which situation he fulfilled for many years, until he became reporter for the angling world (thirteen years ago). His first report appeared in the *Sportsman*, after which he was appointed angling reporter for several sporting papers which position he held till his death; in fact, he was so

energetic that in his last illness, after his speech had left him, he wrote his last account of the angling world in his bed. He was appointed chairman of the United London Anglers' Central Committee in June, 1872, which office he held till the last. He was one of the first members of the now well-known Hoxton Brothers' Angling Society, who gained the first railway concessions for the Loudon angling societies. He was also one of the vice-presidents of that useful institution, the Anglers' Benevolent Society, of which he was also a member.

The funeral started from his late residence at 1.30, the coffin being completely covered with wreaths by his respected friends. The first carriage contained Mrs. Sarah Morgan (his widow), his two daughters (Lilly and Nelly, aged ten and six years), Mr. S. Morgan (his father), Mrs. Howell (his eldest sister), Mr. John Morgan (brother). The second carriage contained W. and H. Morgan (brothers), Henry Tousey (brother-in-law), Mrs. Beecher (sister), Mrs. Thompson and Mrs. Leham (sisters-in-law).

The Rev. Mr. Edden officiated in the chapel; the Rev. B. Butcher read the service at the grave, around which were many of the deceased's dear and respected friends. The scene was beyond description. The poor widow and his father were very much affected, and had to be supported, likewise the dear children seemed to realise the fact of being left fatherless.

Among the numerous company were many well-known friends, including Messrs. J. Worledge, J. Mann (of Old Ford), Joe Woodward, J. Holt, J. Page, M. Theobald (Great Northern Angling Society), C. Smith, W. Brearley, H. J. Tibbatts, M. R. Starr, old Jem Edwards (of Stratford), W. Hugh and A. Clarke (river Lea bailiffs), J. Welsted, J. Willett, A. Wheeler and wife (of the King's Arms and Fishery, Waltham Abbey), C. A. Medcalf, J. Jobbins, G. Manning, A. Rogers (host of the King John's Head, Mansfield Street, Kingsland Road, the club house of the Izaak Walton Angling Society), R. Ghurney and wife (the former his old colleague and friend, secretary of the United London Anglers' Central Committee, Anglers' Benevolent Society, the United Fisheries Society, and Hoxton Brothers' Angling Society), W. Say, T. Freeman, J. Howell, E. Wicks Collins, C. Hewett, Miss A. Tilney, Harry Williams, and R. Putman (of the Fleetwood Arms, Pritchard's Road, Hackney Road), who drove his old friend, John Ellis, behind the last coach to the ground, both of whom stayed till the last and saw the grave filled in.

On the inscription plate was "Samuel Morgan. Died 23rd April, 1884, in his 42nd year."

There is a committee of gentlemen being formed to raise a fund for the benefit of the widow and three orphans. It is with great pleasure that we can announce that his old friend, Richard Ghurney, will undertake the duties of secretary.

Among his numerous friends who have generously proffered their interest and support may be mentioned T. Spreckley, Esq. (treasurer of the Thames Angling Preservation Society), R. B. Marston, Esq., P. Geen, Esq. (president of the West Central Association of Angling Societies), Captain Alfred, T. Crumplen, Esq., and numerous others.

All subscriptions will be duly acknowledged.

J. H. ELLIS AND R. GHURNEY.

[While fully endorsing Mr. Ghurney's kind words about his deceased friend, we wish to add our testimony to the value of Mr. Morgan's services to London anglers, and the general esteem and respect in which he was held. It will be remembered that he was entrusted with the superintendence of the splendid exhibit of stuffed fish which the London clubs sent to the Edinburgh Exhibition. We well remember his telling us there that the Scotch people almost "talked him off his legs" asking questions about the fish. We sincerely trust anglers will come forward to help the widow and orphans of an angler who for the last thirteen years has reported their doings in many papers.—ED]

MAIDENHEAD, COOKHAM, AND BRAY THAMES ANGLING ASSOCIATION.

THE annual meeting of this association took place at Skindle's Hotel, Maidenhead Bridge, on Saturday afternoon last. Mr. J. H. Clark, J.P., was voted in the chair. There were also present: the Rev. C. H. Fardell, Messrs. W. G. Day, F. H. Lemann, C. E. Jollands, H. Russell, R. Nicholson, and W. H. Brougham. The report of last year's proceedings was read over, and ordered to be printed.

The chairman, in proposing the adoption of the report, stated that H. Wilder, who had caught 26 trout since the 1st of April, had told him there were large numbers of very small trout and fry in the river, as a proof the stock was much on the increase.

Mr. Clarke afterwards presented the Association with a framed copy of a photograph of the society's exhibit at the Fisheries Exhibition, which contained the likenesses of their river keepers and some members of the society. A vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Clarke for the same.

In the election of the committee Mr. H. Russell was appointed in the room of Mr. A. A. Wood, who had resigned, and Mr. J. E. Burney was elected as a member of the committee.

Mr. W. G. Day was re-elected as honorary secretary and honorary treasurer. The meeting terminated with a hearty vote of thanks to the chairman.

The annual banquet of the association took place at five o'clock, under the presidency of Mr. W. H. Grenfell, of Taplow Court, and there were also present:—Messrs. J. H. Clark, J.P.; C. W. Cox (Mayor of Maidenhead), A. J. R. Trendell, R. Nicholson, C. E. Jollands, F. H. Lemann, W. H. Brougham, W. Deacon, J. P. Wheeldon, H. Russell, R. Silver, B. Perelli-Rocco, J. F. Simpson, J. E. Burney, A. Lawrence, W. G. Day (hon. sec.), R. J. Brown, A. Pallant, J. A. Jones, H. Arrowsmith, E. Aylett, R. Morris, &c.

Letters of regret were received from Lord Pollington, Messrs. R. B.

Marston, P. Geen, A. C. Butler, and others, and a telegram from Mr. T. Spreckley.

The dinner, which embraced all the delicacies of the season, was admirably served up under the personal superintendence of the proprietor, Mr. H. Hoare, and gave immense satisfaction. The dessert, amongst other choice fruit, included an unlimited supply of fine ripe strawberries.

After the usual loyal toasts, Mr. Grenfell proposed, as he remarked was, the toast of the evening, "Success to the Maidenhead, Cookham, and Bray Thames Angling Association," and congratulated the members on the fairly satisfactory character of the report, and he was sure, in looking back on the past, they had altogether had a successful career. There had been no floods this last winter to interrupt their sport, nor had they on that occasion to suffer from a similar gale which they experienced two years ago when he had to ask them to put on their overcoats. After alluding to the success of the Fisheries Exhibition, he was glad to find their association had obtained a silver medal, which would be regarded as a gratifying memento of the great event of last year. As regarded the question of riparian rights, he hoped they would be brought to a satisfactory solution through the Committee in the House of Commons, as he was sure it would be a great boon to the river to bring the question to a final settlement. Mr. Grenfell concluded a capital practical speech by humorously referring to the house-boats on the river, as it appeared the occupants never seemed to go to bed, and were kept awake by pianos out of tune and worn-out banjos.

The toast was drank with great applause.

Mr. Russell then proposed "The Kindred Associations," which were all doing such good work in other portions of the river. He would couple with the toast the name of Mr. W. H. Brougham, who had not only laboured for years in the work, but was respected by every angler.

Mr. W. H. Brougham, in reply, first of all expressed regret at the unexpected absence of Mr. Thomas Spreckley, who, on the point of leaving for the train, received the intelligence of the death of his brother, and then noticed the fact he (Mr. Brougham) was the oldest representative of Thames Preservation, having been attached to the river for a period of twenty-eight years, throughout which he could honestly assure them his portion of the river had never been neglected. After referring to other details of work done, he sincerely thanked them on behalf of all the other preservation societies.

Mr. F. H. Lemann, in giving "The Press," said it was a general toast on all occasions, and the press, when it gave faithful and true reports, was a most valuable organ. He united with the toast the names of Mr. J. P. Wheeldon and Mr. F. G. Baylis, each of whom briefly replied.

Mr. C. W. Cox gave "The Chairman," and he had the greatest pleasure in doing it, inasmuch as he had been associated in some matters with his late father, and he was proud to add that their chairman was now the High Steward of the Borough of Maidenhead.

The toast was drank with musical honours.

Mr. Grenfell, in his reply, remarked it always afforded him the greatest pleasure to preside at those dinners, although, if it was thought desirable to have a change, he would attend and sit under another chairman with equal pleasure. He was ready to give a hearty welcome to anglers using his woods, and at all times willing to grant permission, but he thought they should be careful in not leaving refuse behind. He had to employ two men to collect their fragments of food and paper, to remove empty bottles, and generally to clean up after them, which he hoped would not be the case in the future.

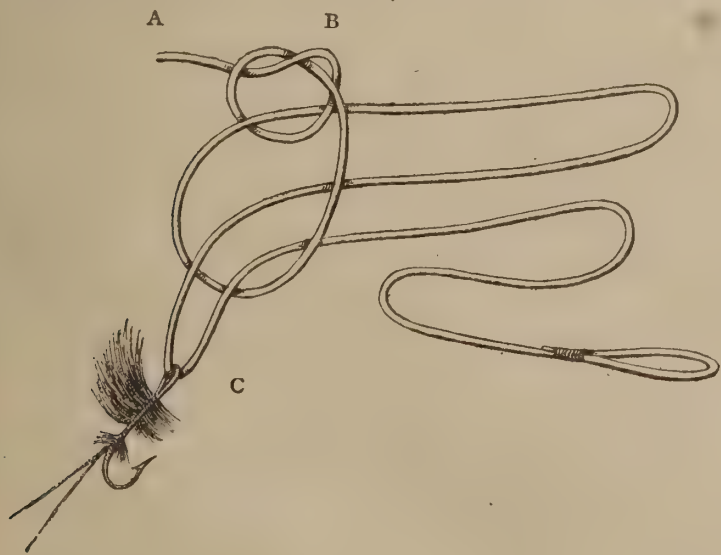
Mr. J. H. Clark, in well-chosen words, proposed "The Visitors," and gracefully referred to the labours of Mr. Trendell in connection with the Fisheries Exhibition, whose name, together with that of Mr. Lawrence, he would associate with the toast.

Mr. A. J. R. Trendell, in replying to the toast, met with a hearty reception, and expressed the pleasure he felt in meeting them on that occasion.

The concluding toast was "The Officers," proposed by Mr. Simpson and replied to by Mr. W. G. Day, the honorary secretary and treasurer.

The proceedings were enlivened by some excellent songs from Messrs. J. P. Wheeldon, C. W. Cox, J. Rutland, &c.

ANOTHER METHOD OF FASTENING THE EYED-HOOK TO GUT.



In a private letter to us, Major Turle happened to mention that he thought his plan of fastening the eyed hook to the gut was more simple than Mr. Hall's. We asked him to explain it, and he has kindly done so, and we have had a sketch made on a very large scale. Major T. says, "You must put the end of the gut A through the eye on the side the point is on, then make the running noose B (simply a single knot made round the gut). When the noose

is made, tigh'en the knot, and cut or bite off the end of the gut, then place the fly through the noose, as shown at C, and draw up tight. Wet the gut well before making the knots and pulling tight. The beauty of this fastening is that the gut has only to pass through the eye once, and as soon as it is threaded you may let it slip down the line (it can't come off) while you hold the end and make the noose. It is a great blessing in cold weather. After a little practice you use up not more than $\frac{1}{4}$ th of an inch of gut to each fly. At 7 a.m. on Easter Monday morning, we experienced the difficulty of threading a wee eyed-hook twice through, as in Mr. Hall's method. The frost was still on the grass and a cold east wind was blowing, and certainly we should have preferred Major Turle's plan if we had then known it. At the very first cast a half-pound trout took the little grey quill gnat, and at the last cast of the day a similar trout took it. In fact, through the day it hooked about half of 20 brace of trout, of which seven brace over 9 inches in length were kept, and the rest returned to the water. Three flies were used, the others not being on eyed-hooks. There was no rise of fly at all.—ED.]

CLUB REPORTS.

CAMBRIDGE FRIENDLY ANGLING SOCIETY.

The sixth annual dinner of the above will take place at the club house, the Rent Day Tavern, Cambridge Street, Hyde Park, W., on Wednesday next, May 7th.—W. SUTTON, sec.

CAXTON ANGLING CLUB, BECCLES

The first competition of the season (pegged down) took place on Saturday last, April 26th, when about thirty members put in an appearance at the time appointed, two o'clock in the afternoon. It was decided that the match should take place up river—that is, between Dunburgh Hills and the Smelt House, four members having previously volunteered to do the staking-out part, which generally takes about an hour; and, when two o'clock came, everything was found in readiness, and, the places having been drawn for, each started off to his respective post. The morning was a very promising one, but during the day the wind was very uncertain, chopping about to different quarters, eventually settling in north-north-east the whole of the afternoon. Nevertheless, fair sport was had, and on assembling at the club room, White Swan Inn, twenty-one members had fish to weigh in; the weight in all being about 37 lb. The following are some of the heaviest catches taken during $3\frac{1}{2}$ hours' fishing:—First, C. Chase, 4 lb. $5\frac{1}{2}$ oz.; second, W. Buck, 3 lb. 14 oz.; third, W. Upcraft, 3 lb. $13\frac{1}{2}$ oz.; fourth, A. Piper, 3 lb. $8\frac{1}{2}$ oz.; fifth, F. Ulph, 3 lb. $1\frac{1}{2}$ oz.; sixth, J. Hooker, 2 lb. $12\frac{1}{2}$ oz. The special prize of 2s. 6d. was taken by F. Ulph, for a nice roach weighing 1 lb. 3 oz. The weighing in part being finished, the secretary announced that Mr. John Hooker had kindly consented to read his paper on "Nottingham v. Light-line Fishing" at the club on the following Saturday evening, the meeting to take place at eight o'clock. The date of the next competition was fixed for Saturday, the 12th of July.—A. WAVENEY ANGLER.

CENTRAL ASSOCIATION OF LONDON ANGLING SOCIETIES

The next delegate meeting will take place at the Star and Garter, St. Martin's Lane, W.C., on Friday, May 9th, at nine o'clock.—J. FITCH, sec.

COBDEN ANGLING SOCIETY.

The fourth annual dinner of the above society took place at the Cobden Club, Kenal Road, on the 18th ult. About 50 members sat down, and after partaking of the substantial repast provided for them, the cloth was removed. Mr. Handover presided. The first thing was to read the secretary's report, which was to the following effect:—"In presenting the fourth annual report, to the notice of the members he congratulated them upon the continued prosperity of the society as shewn by the great increase in the number of members during the year. He regretted that the balance in hand was not so great as might have been wished, but they had contributed to several philanthropic objects connected with angling, and that had helped to diminish their funds. There were also other reasons which had contributed to do so, but it was scarcely necessary to mention them. They had given more prizes this year, the total of club and private prizes being twenty-six, besides two gross weight and five specimen prizes. The principal winners of prizes were Messrs. Stead, Evans, Bishop, Tucker, Salmon, Knight, Cox, Sharland, Maples, Hammans, Jenkins, Reeves, Giles, Hayward, Baker, Hallowses, and Batchelor. The gross weight prizes were taken by Messrs. Stead and Evans; and the specimen prizes by Messrs. Jenkins, Hammans, Wilkinson, and Hallowses. The rules had been revised, and it was hoped that they were made more explicit than the old ones, and so that the several important alterations and additions made would be for the benefit of the society. There was one other matter that he wished to notice, and that was the very beautiful present given to the society by Messrs. Maples and Laing. It consisted of a nice board, made of solid mahogany, with carved frame, polished and gilded in a very neat and effective manner. It is a work of art that any angling society would be proud to possess. In concluding the report, he expressed his sincere thanks to those kind friends who had so generously contributed to the prizes during the year, and also to the officers and members of the society who had co-operated and assisted him in carrying out his duties." At the conclusion of reading the report (which was received with loud cheers) the prizes were distributed to those entitled to them. They consisted of silver watches, fishing rods and other tackle, a suit of clothes, and various sums of money ranging in amount from 25s. to 75s. 6d. each. After the prizes were distributed the chairman gave the toast of the evening, which was "Success to the Cobden Angling Society," and in a few well-chosen words traced the progress that the society had made in the last two or three years, and predicted that before long the Cobden would stand in the front rank of London Angling Societies. The toast was enthusiastically received, as were also several others that were proposed and responded to in like manner. The remainder of the evening was devoted to a vocal and instrumental concert. Some excellent songs were rendered, and among them may be noticed the following:—Mr. Jenkins, "I tickled her under the chin"; Mr. Jeffs, "Dolly Browne"; Mr. Anwell, "I like a soldier fell," and "Remember me"; Mr. E. Hopes, "Many happy returns of the day"; Mr. Ashley, "Dear, dear friends of old"; Mr. Hooks, "The gallants of England"; Mr. Ardiss, "Why should London wait?"; Mr. C. Reeves, "Tom Bowling"; Mr. Handover, "Sad sea waves"; and Mr. Belle Vue, "I will stand by my

friend." At the conclusion of the songs a vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Handover for presiding, and the company separated soon after midnight, having evidently thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The following sums are promised for private prizes for the coming season:—Mr. Hookham, 10s.; Mr. Baker, 10s.; Mr. Sharland, 5s.; Mr. Fomison, 5s.; Mr. Bishop, 18s.; Mr. Giles, 10s.; Mr. Evans, 10s.; Mr. Crane, 10s.; Mr. Barnett, a winch and jack line; Mr. Philpot, 6s.; Mr. Cox, 6s.; Mr. Hammons, 10s.; Mr. H. Giles, bait can.—C. REEVES, sec.

DUKE OF NORFOLK ANGLING SOCIETY.

The above society have removed to more commodious premises at Mr. Green's, the Blenheim Arms, Blenheim Crescent, Notting Hill.—J. AVON, secretary.

GREAT YARMOUTH PISCATORIAL ANGLING SOCIETY.

On Tuesday evening, being the end of the year of this society (which had its origin on the 1st May, 1882), it was a most influential and a good practical meeting of its founders and members. The chair was occupied by the president, the vice-chair by D. S. Bayfield. After the minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed, especially that one relating to the entrance fee for new members (which hereafter will be 5s. entrance and 2s. 6d. annual subscription for angling members, honorary members remaining the same as before), the chairman called on the secretary for his annual report, which, being of some considerable length, cannot be given verbatim, although it may hereafter appear for the perusal of the friends and supporters of this society. After its delivery it was duly accepted and adopted, the thanks of the society being given to the secretary for the same. The elections were then proceeded with, the following gentlemen being duly elected for the coming season.—President, H. Mitchell, Esq., M.D.; vice president, D. S. Bayfield; chairman, C. K. Lamb; treasurer, H. Mitchell, Esq.; auditors, Messrs. Etheridge and Bonfellow; hon. secretaries, Messrs. Lark and Lee. 5 lb. weight of trout were reported by the president caught by him near Dereham. A vote of thanks to the chair, vice-chair, and officers of the past two years brought a very enjoyable evening to a close.—J. LARK, hon. sec.

GRESHAM ANGLING SOCIETY.

The ordinary weekly meeting was held on Tuesday evening, at the Mason's Hall Tavern, Mason's Avenue, Basinghall Street, Mr. Crumplen in the chair. The minutes having been read and confirmed, and a quantity of correspondence disposed of, the chairman remarked that before proceeding further with the business of the evening it was his painful duty to inform them that since their last meeting Mr. Morgan, the much-esteemed chairman of the East Central Association, had passed away. He was so well known and liked by all those members of the Gresham who knew him that he (the chairman) felt sure that they would all join with him in expressing the deep regret which he felt at the loss of so estimable an acquaintance. Mr. Morgan, the chairman continued, had left a wife and three little children in very straitened circumstances, and he trusted that the society would be able to help them in their hour of affliction. On the motion of Captain Alfred, seconded by Mr. Bentley, a vote of condolence to Mrs. Morgan was passed, and the secretary requested to write her accordingly. A subscription list was also opened, to which every member present contributed. Further subscriptions will gladly be received by Mr. Crumplen, or the secretary (Mr. Hartley). It was decided to bring up the prize list for the season at the meeting on the 13th May for final consideration. The list is already a good one, and further additions are expected. On this evening there will also be a smoking concert. A vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Crumplen for his services in the chair. Mr. Field occupied the chair during the later portion of the evening.—H.

HAMMERSMITH UNITED ANGLING SOCIETY.

The annual dinner will take place at the club house, Builders' Arms, Bridge Road, Hammersmith, on Thursday, the 22nd of May. Members' friends will be invited.—J. H.

INDEPENDENT BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

The first annual supper of the above society takes place at the club house, Bird-in-Hand, Long Acre, W.C., host Mr. Waldo, on Tuesday, May 20th, when we shall be most happy to have the company of as many friends as can make it convenient to attend.—H. MOORE, sec.

PORTSMOUTH WALTONIAN ANGLING SOCIETY.

There was a large gathering of the members at the club-house on Thursday, the 24th ult., the special business being the distribution of prizes for the past year and the acceptance of new prizes for the ensuing. In the absence of Mr. J. Buck, the president (owing to the death of his father), Mr. J. S. Dyer, an old ex-president, was voted to the chair, and presented the prizes in due form. Mr. Herbert Redward was the recipient of the first prize, a silver cup value four pounds, presented by Mr. A. L. Emanuel; for gross weight of saltwater fish three years running. The second prize was won by Captain Hill, two guineas, presented by Sir Drummond Wolfe, M.P. for Portsmouth, one of the vice patrons, for trout. The other prize-takers were Mr. Ritchie, jack and mullet; Mr. J. Buck, perch; Mr. Bracey, jack; Mr. J. S. Dyer, perch; Mr. Vaughan, roach; Mr. Butler, sen., and Mr. Butler, jun., roach and gudgeon; Mr. Radique, roach; Mr. Hollendess, tench and roach; Mr. Everett, whiting; Mr. Winter, whiting, and many other smaller items. The Durdur water has been again secured by the club for the ensuing year. It is a portion of the Rother, and extends over three miles, and strictly preserved, abounding in trout, dace, roach, and gudgeon. On the night in question the subject of the Anglers' Benevolent Society was again mooted, when twenty of the members subscribed the yearly amount, one shilling and a penny, the chairman particularly alluding to the society as one of the most deserving in connection with the poorer brothers of the angle. The weather has been very unfavourable here lately, east winds continuing cold and miserable. A few bass have been caught in Portsmouth Harbour, but very small.—DAGGERWOOD.

ROYAL GEORGE ANGLING SOCIETY.

At our weekly meeting last Tuesday, it was decided that the fourth smoking concert of the season should take place on Tuesday night, May 6th, when each member will be entitled to introduce friends. The two gentlemen who have hitherto presided at the piano have promised to be present on the occasion, and we trust members will come up in full force with friends to support them. We have arranged to have a day at Amberley before the season commences. All members desirous of going will be good enough to send in their names at once to—W. H. RIDGE.

SILVER TROUT ANGLING CLUB.

It is now twenty years since this society was established, and one of its chief originators was the late Mr. F. T. Williams, of Great Queen Street. It has always been a prosperous angling club, and ever ready to render great assistance in the encouragement of true sport. Following the example of other clubs, it has made the Holborn Restaurant its home for the annual dinners, and on the evening of Wednesday last, in the Duke's Salon, it celebrated its twentieth anniversary with the usual success, under the excellent presidency of Mr. E. Hawkins, whose prowess in the science of angling is well known, and in this position he was ably supported by Mr. George Lake. There was an attendance of about ninety members and friends, and the dinner, provided by Mr. T. J. Hamp, was very highly appreciated, or, as the chairman entered it in the Dinner Opinion Book, "superb." There were only a limited number of toasts, as it was intended to make music the principal feature of the evening, there being present so many gentlemen of great repute in vocal talent. The toast of "Success to the Silver Trout Angling Club" was proposed and responded to as briefly as it could possibly be, but this was more than compensated for by a lengthy and elaborate report, full of interest and abounding with information. Mr. Hawkins, in giving "The Thames Angling Preservation Society," said it was deserving of the support of every angling club in London, and it was a great pleasure to have the presence of Mr. W. H. Brougham amongst them, who he believed had attended all their annual dinners.—Mr. Brougham, in reply, thanked them for their warm reception, and regretted his society was not supported as it ought to be by the angling clubs, several of whom this last year had not renewed their subscriptions on account of having no funds. The only other toasts were "The Press" and "The Visitors."—It would be invidious to make a selection from those who so kindly contributed to the harmony of the evening, as all did their part so well; but the list included Messrs. M. F. Packer, G. Sandford, G. Furneaux, W. Risson, Parker, Pettit, and J. H. Stead, Mr. Packer very ably presiding at the pianoforte. The proceedings were of the most joyous character, and under the excellent rule of Mr. E. Hawkins, there was no hing to mar the complete happiness of the evening.—B.

SOCIABLE BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

The above society will remove to their new club house, The Hope Pollard's Row, Bethnal Green Road, Proprietor Mr. W. E. Groome, on Thursday, May 8th, when anglers and friends will be cordially invited to a complimentary smoking concert; chair taken at 8.30.—W. S. W.

THE CLAPTON ANGLING SOCIETY.

A very successful meeting was held in accordance with the notice, which we printed in our last issue. Members were enrolled, and the future of this society, under good management (which we doubt not it will have), should be of a first-class character. The next meeting is at the club house, Swan, Upper Clapton, at 7 o'clock on Wednesday, the 29th inst., when members and their friends are invited to attend.—HY. HOWSE, hon. sec.

THE PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

The ordinary weekly meeting of this society was held at Ashley's Hotel, Covent Garden, on Monday evening last, there being an excellent attendance of members. Mr. M. Blamey was unanimously voted to the chair. Amongst the visitors were Messrs. King, Pearson, and H. B. Smith. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The chairman announced that, although another committee had been called to consider the advisability of exhibiting part of the contents of our museum in connection with the National Fish Culture Association at the forthcoming Health Exhibition, they had been unable to alter the previous decision arrived at, and therefore resolved not to reopen the question. Dr. Brunton expressed his regret that the Piscatorial Society had refused to exhibit, although he thanked them for having held a committee on the subject. Tickets have been forwarded to the hon. sec. enabling several of our members to attend the meeting at the Society of Arts on April 30th, the subject being, "The New Legislation as to Freshwater Fisheries," by J. W. Willis Bund, Esq., Edward Birkbeck, Esq., M.P., in the chair. The next business was the ballot for a new member, Mr. Deller, of Crooked Lane, E.C., proposed by Mr. Lemann, seconded by Mr. T. R. Sachs. The chairman announced that Mr. Deller had been duly elected, amidst cheers. A letter was read from Mr. T. P. Wheeldon, asking any member of the society to give evidence of any interference received by them on the river Thames while fishing or boating. This gentleman was in attendance, and explained, or rather pointed out, the great number of cases and localities in which riparian rights had been set up, and so great were their numbers as to astonish the members present. There seemed to be a general feeling that while real private rights should be most heartily respected, Mr. Storey-Maskelyne's Select Parliamentary Committee would do unbounded good in breaking down assumed rights which have unfortunately of late years cropped up too often. Our members, Messrs. Wheeldon and Lemann, have been fishing for trout at Maidenhead, with Harry Wilder as fisherman. It says a good deal for these waters when in one day Mr. Wheeldon killed two trout, one weighing 4 lb. and the other 3 lb. In some humorous remarks both by himself and Mr. Lemann, the details of the capture of these fish were set forth to the great satisfaction of all present. The support of the members of this society was asked for in reference to the Cookham and Bray Association, which was stated to be in want of funds. That society has done a great deal in re-stocking the river with trout, which are now plentiful in that district. A very nice present of angling and other sporting engravings was made by our new member, Mr. Godwin, and a vote of thanks was unanimously carried amidst loud cheers. Mr. Godwin very gracefully replied, and thanked the members for their kind expression towards him. The chairman next had the pleasant duty of presenting two club prizes. The chub competition in 1883, owing to the flooded state of the river, did not give satisfaction to some of the competitors. It was, therefore, resolved to have an extra competition on 3rd of March. The first prize was won by Mr. T. Huggett, four guineas; the second by Mr. Fennings, two guineas. Mr. Huggett, in returning thanks, stated that, although the water was in good condition, the wind, snow, rain, and hail on 3rd March were dead against good sport, and, in fact, rendered chub-fishing almost impossible. Mr. H. B. Brown has been fishing in France, and caught large numbers of trout. They, however, ran small, very little of the water being strictly preserved. Mr. Huggett proposed and Mr. Blamey seconded, and the members all joined in, a vote of sympathy to Mr. Wheatstone, who is suffering from a compound fracture of the leg, and the hon. sec. was asked to forward the same in the usual manner. We wish him a speedy recovery. The toasts of "Success to the Society" and "The Chairman" having been proposed, the meeting terminated.—T. H.

UNITED LONDON ANGLERS.

The annual meeting of the committee will take place on Monday evening next, May 5th, at 9 o'clock, to arrange the yearage, appoint a chairman, and delegates to the West Central Association, the Angler's Benevolent Society, the Fisheries Society, and other important business. Trout fishing has commenced in the river Lea. Several good fish are feeding along the upper portion of the river from Broxbourne to Hertford. Persons taking and retaining any other description of fish will be prosecuted without further notice.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

WATFORD PISCATORS.

The third annual dinner of the above society will be held on Wednesday, May 7, at the Leather Sellers' Arms, High Street, Watford, when the numerous prizes will be distributed.—H. A. V., hon. sec.

YARE PRESERVATION AND ANGLERS' SOCIETY.

This society, which has conferred such benefits upon the anglers who frequent the Norfolk and Suffolk Rivers and Broads, held its annual dinner at the Royal Hotel on Monday, April 21st. The president (the Rev. Sir W. Vincent, Bart.) occupied the chair. There were also present the Mayor and Sheriff, of Norwich, Alderman Stevens, Councillors S. Grimmer, Offord, T. C. R. King, and Stafford; Messrs. E. Field, J.P., H. W. Woods, F. G. Diggins (2), J. B. Pearce, A. W. Preston, W. Womersley, R. Moll, C. J. Greene (hon. secretary), G. S. Buckingham, J. P. Batch, J. T. Furse, S. H. Baldry, J. B. Sendalls, C. Daniels, F. A. Steward, G. G. Whincop, S. F. Howitt, W. Chattleburgh, W. Varvel, J. D. Beeston, T. E. Gunn, F.L.S.; J. B. Coleby, F. Ellingham, E. Holmes, G. A. M. Bowles, J. Minton, Lieut. Waraker, F. Parker, H. Flowers, W. Mayhew, G. Woodhouse, T. E. Howlett, S. J. Hook, J. J. Hunt, T. Southwell, F. B. St. John, W. Fraser, and many others, numbering in all about eighty. Mr. T. E. Gunn had kindly decorated the room with numerous cases of stuffed specimens, which formed part of his vast collection at the late International Fisheries Exhibition, including that much-noticed case of the pike and the eel, carp, bass (17½ lb.), brace of perch (8½ lb.), golden bream, white bream, sea bream, tench, golden tench, roach, gold carp, rudd, grayling, dace, red mullet, wrasse, smelt, mackerel, white herrings, &c. There were also three cases belonging to the Norwich Angling club, containing the largest roach ever caught (3 lb., by Mr. T. Lord, near St. Benet's Abbey, on the Bure); salmon trout, caught by Mr. C. J. Greene, at Cantley, on the Yare; and a fine perch, caught by Mr. Gunn—all three caught last year. The dinner was served in the style so well known to those who patronise the Royal. Dessert followed, and the leading toasts were given by the president, who alluded in affecting terms to the sad loss the Duchess of Albany and Her Majesty had sustained by the sudden death of Prince Leopold. The "Prince and Princess of Wales" was heartily given and cordially responded to. The "Army, Navy, and Reserve Forces" brought up Lieut. Waraker, who thanked the president for coupling his name with the toast, and trusted that the number of volunteers in our dear old city might increase, as, in his opinion, the best way to secure peace was by being prepared for war. The president next gave the "Members for the County and City," who, he was sorry to say, had written and explained that, owing to Parliament re-assembling on that very night, they were unavoidably absent. He believed all our members were equally interested in advancing the interests of this society, and of fishing, and fishing interests generally; but one at least towered above all others in his devotion and exertions in the objects of this society, namely, Mr. E. Birkbeck, M.P.—Sir R. J. Buxton, Bart., had also written and explained that, by a clause they hoped to add to the Fresh Water Fisheries Bill, the powers of the Conservators would be extended to all dykes and waters which are connected with the navigable streams, and also with power to deal with attempts to poison fish, which in the past had only been conferred on owners of private waters. The next toast was "The Mayor, the Sheriffs, and the Corporation," the President remarking that one striking proof of the loyalty of the people of England was the way in which they obeyed the local government and the respect they showed to the powers that be. The past Mayors and Sheriffs of Norwich had left their marks upon their year of office, and he trusted the present holders of these high and honourable positions would nobly follow suit.—The Mayor (Dr. Eade), in a capital speech, alluded to the objects and attainments of the society, and gave some accounts of his experience as an angler on the Yare, stating his opinion (from which the majority in the room differed) that none of the fish caught in our stream were of any value as food.—The Sheriff also responded, and wished the society continued prosperity.—The Mayor, in a humorous speech, proposed the health of "The Rev. President," the choice of whom he commended, as he might be said to reside in an amphibious parish, since, during part of the year at least, some portion of it was sure to be under water. The industry and ability which the rev. gentleman threw into all his undertakings were a sure omen of good to this society.—The President thanked the Mayor for his kind remarks, and the members for so cordially receiving his name, and trusted that in time our rivers might, through acclimatisation, be stocked with fish, more valuable to the angling community than those at present indigenous to our rivers. Scientists say that fish food is the best to recruit exhaustion of brain power; and a fish diet is always ordered where deterioration of the brains is threatened. He, therefore, hoped that by increasing the stock of fish, and extending the sport of angling, there would be no need of lunatic asylums.—The Sheriff proposed "The Conservators of the Norfolk and Suffolk Fisheries," and suggested that this society should look after the towing paths. Mr. E. Field, in responding, informed the Sheriff that the Corporation had power, and also exercised it, with regard to the towing paths. He then entered into explanations about the enlargement of the size of the mesh in netting, and the total abolition in Norfolk and Suffolk of all drag netting. "The Visitors" were proposed by Mr. F. A. Steward, and responded to by Messrs. Alderman Stevens and Councillor Offord. The "Health of the Honorary Secretary" was ably responded to by our old friend, C. J. Greene, in about one of the best speeches of the evening. "The Honorary Solicitor," "The Press," and "The Ladies," brought a very successful meeting to a close. The singing of Dr. Offord, Messrs. E. Holmes, H. Flowers, G. A. M. Bowles, with Mr. Hinison at the piano, afforded much pleasure to the members during the evening.—R. M.

GEORGE JAMES EATON, of Starkholmes, Matlock-Bath, Derbyshire, respectfully invites Noblemen and Gentlemen to try his standard FLIES for the present season. No flies sent or made up but what he himself has proved sure killers. A trial is all that is required, from gentlemen who can fish, to prove whether they may be genuine or not. Patronised by some of the best fishermen of the day. All flies dressed on the best Kendal hooks. Prices; Point Flies, 2s. 6d. per Dozen; Dropper Flies, 2s. per Dozen. Orders punctually attended to.—(ADVT.)

NOTES AND QUERIES.

CHARLES COTTON AND FLY-FISHING.

Cotton insists upon what we have always regarded as the golden rule of fly-fishing, to stand as far back from the bank as possible. Ingenious diagrams to show the manner in which a trout can see a man near the water, but hidden by an intervening bank, have been published by Ronalds and others. If a man stands sufficiently far back he need not trouble his head about angles of incidence or laws of refraction, and if it be at all an angling day he will fill his basket with fish. At present we should take exception to the statement that the Lathkin in the Peak district breeds the reddest and best trout in England. The Itchen, Teme, and one or two more streams of minor note and size, would certainly vanquish its pretensions. We shall not here enter upon any criticism of Cotton's method, directions, or the flies which he recommends, as we are not dwelling on the practical so much as the scholarly side of angling. But the particularity with which some of his flies are described is sufficiently amusing. It reminds us of a parish clerk, long since gone to his rest, who was famous in Devonshire during his day for making the best "March browns" in the country side. One day he confided their secret to a friend. They were made out of a very mangy cat-skin waistcoat which he had worn until it almost fell to pieces! So Cotton recommends a "red-brown fly" for January to be made of "the dubbing of the tail of a black long-coated ewe, such as they commonly make muffs of." The same fly for the next month is to be fashioned of "the black spot of a hog's ear; not that a black spot in any other part of the hog will not afford the same colour, but that the hair in that place is by many degrees softer and more fit for the purpose." There seems here a justification for the old proverb about making a silken purse from a hog's ear. The best of all flies, however, for a man to kill with must be with a "brown that looks red in the hand and yellowish betwixt your eye and the sun." Unluckily, Cotton does not impart the secret of making this phoenix. It resembles to our mind nothing so much as the Irishman's "fiery red," with which he could kill a basketful when no one else could stir a fin.—*The Gentleman's Magazine*.

WATERPROOF CANVAS.

According to the *Milling World*, sackcloth or canvas can be made as impervious to moisture as leather, by steeping it in a decoction of 1 lb. of oak bark with 14 lb. of boiling water. This quantity is sufficient for eight yards of stuff. The cloth has to soak for twenty-four hours, when it is taken out, passed through running water, and hung up to dry. The flax and hemp fibres, in absorbing the tannin, are at the same time better fitted to resist wear.

COMPARATIVE WEIGHTS OF FLY-ROD MATERIAL.

Believing that to some of your readers exact information in reference to the comparative weights of the more commonly used fly-rod materials would be of interest, the following specific gravities were computed with the kind assistance of Mr. E. S. Hopkins and Mr. W. G. Levison, of the Cooper Institute Laboratory.

Distilled water was the standard. The determinations were made with great care, and are believed to be reliable, for the specimens tested, to within at least the third decimal place. Different samples of the same species differ somewhat from one another in weight. The woods which were the subject of this experiment were carefully selected for the express purpose of fly-rod making, and were, as far as was possible, the very best of their kind. It is, therefore, believed that the following determinations more correctly represent the comparative weights of such material as is used for this purpose, than would any samples selected at random in the wood market, or any table computed therefrom.

The split bamboo was of excellent quality, of my own preparation. The six-strip hexagonal piece was taken from an old and well-ried middle joint. The angles of this were slightly rounded. The four-strip piece was put together with the rind inside for the purpose of comparison.

The cedar was taken from a very choice piece from Florida.

The different materials are arranged in the table in the order of their weights, the heaviest first. To facilitate comparison on the part of such as may be unfamiliar with the use of specific gravities, the weight of a cubic foot of each is also given, in pounds and hundredths of a pound.

Material.	Specific gravity.	Weight of one cubic foot.
Snakewood	1.3718	85.74
Bethabara	1.2140	75.98
Greenheart	1.0908	68.18
Lancewood	1.0335	64.59
Split bamboo, 6 strip, hexagonal, rind outside	0.9915	61.96
Split bamboo, 4-strip, rind inside	0.9678	60.49
Ironwood (hornbeam)	0.8184	51.15
Hickory	0.7963	49.78
Ash	0.7786	48.66
Mahoe	0.6607	41.29
Cedar	0.6396	39.98

At the first convenient opportunity it is proposed to compute a table of comparative elasticities. Will some of your readers be kind enough to supply me with a piece of first-class ironwood (hornbeam) for this purpose? It should be from 3 to 4 feet long, and so as to admit of being planed to a true square of 8½ in. Similar pieces of the smooth and shag-bark varieties of hickory would also be thankfully received. But to be of any value for this purpose the wood must be well seasoned, and fairly represent the merits of the species to which it belongs.

HENRY P. WELLS.

New York, in *Forest and Stream*.

PROSECUTION UNDER THE CLOSE SEASONS ACT.—At the Leicester Borough Police Court, on Monday, before the ex-Mayor (F. Hewitt, Esq.), W. Winterton, and W. W. Stretton, Esq., a fishmonger, named Edward Skipper, of Belgrave Gate, was summoned by Mr. Hardy, the secretary of the Leicester Angling Society, for having in his possession for sale certain freshwater fish—viz., perch, on the 12th ult., it being within the period of the Close Seasons Act. The defendant pleaded guilty. Mr. G. F. Harrison, who appeared to represent the local angling society, said that in face of defendant's plea he did not wish to press the charge, but merely to obtain a conviction, and, under the circumstances, the Bench inflicted the nominal fine of 5s. The Chairman expressed a hope that this would act as a warning to defendant.

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position. The prices for inserting advertisements in this "EXCHANGE"
Column are 6d. per line for one, or 4d. per line for more than one insertion.
Address Manager, FISHING GAZETTE, 12 and 13, Fetter Lane, London, and send
stamps with the order, or the advertisement cannot be inserted.WANTED.—Particulars and prices of Secondhand Books on Angling and Fish Culture.
Must be in good condition—Address Editor, FISHING GAZETTE, 12 and 13, Fetter Lane,
London, E.C.Splendid Trout Flies, 8d. per dozen.—J. Palmer, Littleworth, Redditch.
Splendid Trout Flies, 8d. per dozen. See Editor's Notice, March 22nd, '84.—J. Palmer,
Littleworth, Redditch.House Boat, large, superior, and well furnished, wanted to hire for the season, complete
with all requisites (except linen) preferred.—Address with full particulars, H. M.,
Tavistock Chambers, Covent Garden, W.C.

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RIVER REPORTS.

TIME OF HIGH WATER IN THE THAMES.

To find the time of high water in the Thames at any of the following places,
to the time of high water at London Bridge (given below).

	30 minutes for Chelsea.
40	" Putney.
45	" Hammersmith.
50	" Barnes.
55	" Kew.
75	" Richmond.
80	" Twickenham.
85	" Teddington.

Example:—If it is high water at 2 o'clock at London Bridge, it will be high
water at Teddington about 3.25, or eighty-five minutes later; but it must be
remembered that a strong wind accelerates or retards the tide very much.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.

			Morning.	Afternoon.
For Saturday,	May	3	7.57	8.32
Sunday,	"	4	9.11	9.50
Monday,	"	5	10.26	10.59
Tuesday,	"	6	11.31	11.59
Wednesday,	"	7	12.0	12.24
Thursday,	"	8	12.45	1.5
Friday,	"	9	1.26	1.43

THE LOWER THAMES.

THE TROUT SEASON.

John Johnson, sen., in writing from Kingston, says: "There has been but
little trout fishing with us. I had a couple of hours yesterday, that is all I have
had this week; my son has been out two or three half days. The wind has
been so bad that you could not face it, and only saw the fish if the wind went
down in the evening. There is an improvement now, and, should it continue,
some fish will be caught, but there is no time to lose." At Sunbury, Mr.
Edward Lukyn has caught one of 3 lb., and a smaller one which was put back
again. There appears to be a good quantity of trout about this size at Sunbury,

as this gentleman has taken four this season, and in other parts of the river upwards fish of the same size are being found. There is one this week at Staines, a trout of 3½ lb., caught by John Keene, jun. At Shepperton, George Rosewell is reported to have taken two good trout, one of 7½ lb. and one of 10 lb., with Mr. Palmer. At Bell Weir, just above Staines, Mr. George Rowles has, with his usual good fortune, secured two handsome fish in two consecutive days, one weighing 9 lb. 11 oz., and the other 11 lb. At Maidenhead, in the Upper Thames, Mr. J. P. Wheeldon, in one day, fishing with Harry Wilder, landed two nice fish, one weighing 4 lb. and the other 8½ lb.; both have been sent for preservation.

Mr. Humphreys, fishing from the bank at the water gallery at Hampton Court, caught a very handsome trout of 10 lb. It was taken on spinning tackle with the wind blowing from the north-east.

UPPER THAMES.

Water in grand order for trout, and fish well on the feed, as evidenced by the following late takes. At Maple Durham, three decent fish; at Marsh, two fair specimens; at Hambledon, three fish; and at Great Marlow, two fish, (ive baiting) of 8 lb. and 4 lb. by Mr. Faulkner, in Mr. Wright's mill-tail, and also another by Mr. Wright, engineer, of 3½ lb. in the same water. Fishermen cannot do better than now accept the good weather and things offered to them, before "youth and pleasure" at prow and helm scare away the chance even of sport amid the finny tribe.—MARLOW BUZZ.

Datchet.

The change in the wind, contrary to expectations, has not made the trout rise more freely. The bleak and the dace still keep in the deep, and things don't seem any the forwarder for the mild winter. From Windsor I hear of some small ones being taken up to 2½ each; at Egham Weir, two fish, 9 lb. each. Myself three fish, respectively 3½, 3, and 2½ lb. Another large one did me nicely—took the hooks without any ceremony—two more runs.—GEORGE LUMSDEN.

Goring.

Water now in first-rate order for trout fishing. Have seen a good fish or two feeding here. I was out on the 29th ult. with two gentlemen, and we lost a good fish. I should think he was about 4 lb. The hooks broke. I think if gentlemen would come and try our water they would have some luck. Wind now south-west.

Ancholme District.

A most agreeable change has taken place in the weather, the wind having got into the south; but the watercourses were never known to be so low at this period on any previous occasion. But little sport can be expected until after a fresh; then great things will, I have no doubt, be done. I have only been out once. I then caught a brace only, the largest being 1½ lb. I hope to have a day or two during the coming week on some better waters. The stone fly may be expected at once. Good imitations of it kill fairly well on the Bain. It should, however, not be dressed too large.—THOMAS FORD, Caistor.

Ballynahinch.

For these six days we have had showery weather. Sport very fair considering the low waters. On the 23rd ult. Mr. Lawson, three salmon, two 13 lb. each, and one 13½ lb. On the 25th ult. Mr. Pepper one, 11½ lb.; same gentleman, on the 28th ult., two, 14 lb. and 11 lb.; and Mr. Lawson, one, 11 lb.—WALTER BLACKADDER.

Coquet (Weldon Bridge).

Since my last report there has been no fishing owing to the wind being always from the East, but at the time of writing the wind has changed.—A. GLASS.

Dee and Don.

A few grilse were got in the stake nets along the coast south of Dee mouth last week. They were small in size, as is usual at the time they turn up first. Last year they appeared about the end of March, and one was caught on Kineskie on 28th April by Mr. Wm. Dawson, fisherman. Generally, however, the grilse do not take to our North-Eastern rivers in any quantity till about the middle of June, unless induced by genial weather and a high running water. Some of the stations on the coast had better fishing last week than during any other week since the beginning of the season. On the Dee stations and southward, about 1,500 salmon were caught, and on the Don stations and the adjacent sea shots, somewhere about 400. The rivers were low and clear, and in consequence of the prevalence of cold easterly winds few fish sought to run. If the wind would change, the snow on the hills, in the presence of genial weather, would melt, and the rivers come down in goodly volume. Then we should see some good sport, as the fish that are lying about the coast in such numbers would push upward, and anglers would once more have the satisfaction of securing newly-run salmon—the prize of every real enthusiastic lover of the sport. Angling on the lower reaches last week was poor—very poor; on the middle reaches inferior; and the higher not quite up to previous weeks. The Pitfour, Logie, Jock Scott, Bumble bee, and March brown, sizes 3 to 5 double (brazed) irons are in most request, the two first doing best. Good trouting was got on some parts of the Don—at Parkhill, Kintore, and Alford especially—during the week, and, with good weather and an occasional drop of fresh rain, it ought to continue good for a month or so yet—that is, fly-fishing. We notice, with pleasure, that an attempt is to be made to form an angling association for the Granite City. Price of salmon in Aberdeen during the week, cut, is 8d. to 2s. per lb.; trout, is 4d. to 1s. 9d. Reports of angling annexed. Durrus Lower Water.—Dr. McDonald and party are having first-class sport. Durrus Middle Water.—Wednesday, Major Scott, 1 salmon, 11 lb.; Thursday, 1 salmon, 8½ lb. Park Water.—Tuesday, A. D. Clark, Esq., 2 salmon, 8 and 9 lb.; Wednesday, 2 fish, 8 and 14 lb.; Saturday, Riddell, keeper, 1 fish, 9 lb. Crathes.—Monday, Wm. Dawson, 1 fish, 7½ lb.; Tuesday, Aug. Grimble, Esq., 1 salmon, 11 lb.; Thursday, 1 fish, 9½ lb.; Friday, 1 fish, 7½ lb. Inchmarlo, 2 salmon, during the week. Blackhall, nil. Cairnton Cottage Water.—T. Farley, Esq., landed a few fish during the week, principally with the natural minnow. Sluie.—Thursday, Chas. Gill, 1 fish, 8½ lb. Nothing done on Woodend. Report of Messrs. Wm. Blacklaws and Sons, rod makers and fishing tackle manufacturers, Kincardine O'Neil:—"Carlogie.—Sir Henry Boynton, Bart., Tuesday, 4 fish, 9, 10, 10, and 11 lb.; Thursday, 2 fish, 9 and 10 lb.; Friday, 1 fish, 7½ lb. Ballogie.—George Blacklaws, Esq., Friday, 1 fish, 11 lb. Borrowstone.—Frank Davidson, Esq., Friday, 1 fish, 10 lb.; Wednesday, J. Harper, 2 fish, 9 and 10 lb.; Thursday, 1 fish, 9 lb. No better

sport will be had here till we get a fresh supply of fish. The Carlogie reach is to be let for May.—"W. B. and Son." On the Aboyne Castle water on Monday Colonel Keen landed 1 salmon 14 lb.; on Tuesday Mr. Cayley landed 3 salmon, 7, 10, and 12 lb.; Colonel Telford 1 salmon, 10 lb.; on Thursday 1, 8 lb.; Mr. Cayley 2, 9 and 10 lb. On the hotel water on Saturday Mr. Cayley landed 1 salmon 9 lb.; on Monday Colonel Telford 1, 7 lb. On the Hunly Lodge water on Saturday William Dunn landed two salmon, 8 and 9 lb.; on Monday 1, 13 lb.; on Tuesday Colonel Keen 1, 11 lb.; on Wednesday J. Harper 1, 9 lb. Report of Mr. George Smith, saddler and tackle maker, Ballaer:—"Invercauld Arms Hotel Water.—Tuesday, J. Donaldson, Esq., 1 fish, 8 lb.; Wednesday, 4 fish, 8, 8, 10, and 11 lb.; Thursday, 2 fish, 8 and 9 lb.; Friday, 3 fish, 7, and 8, 9 lb.; Saturday, 4 fish, 9, 10, 11, and 13 lb.; Monday, 1 fish, 7 lb.; Tuesday, Col. Chambers, 2 fish, 8 and 15 lb.; Wednesday, 1 fish, 10 lb.; Friday, 1 fish, 7 lb.; Saturday, 2 fish, 5 and 10½ lb.; Monday, 2 fish, 6 and 8 lb. Birkhall.—Monday, R. Lundie, keeper to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, 2 fish, 7 and 8 lb. Monaltrie.—Tuesday, F. Pickop, Esq., 5 fish, 7, 8, 9, 9½ and 11 lb.; Thursday, 1 fish, 9 lb.; Saturday, 1 fish, 19 lb.; Tuesday, Dr. Ogilvie, 2 fish, 7½ and 8½ lb.; Wednesday, 2 fish, 7½ and 9½ lb.; Friday, 1 fish, 8 lb.; Saturday, 1 fish, 14 lb.; Wednesday, Captain Milhill, 2 fish, 8, 8½ and 11 lb.; Thursday, 2 fish, 7 and 8 lb. THE DON.—Parkhill Water.—Saturday, A. Muirhead Aitken, Esq., 14 lb. yellow trout and one salmon, 9 lb.; James Brown, Esq., 14 lb. yellow trout. Thainston.—Capital baskets of trout during the week. Kintore Burgh Water.—Very good baskets and one or two salmon. Haughton Arms Hotel Water, Alford.—Monday, Mr. Kerr and Capt. Cheap, trout, 16½ and 15 lb.; Tuesday, 12½ and 11½ lb. Messrs. Poole and Collins, an average of 11 lb. per day last week. Forbes Arms Hotel Water.—Rev. S. La Ham, Dr. Daulton, and Mr. Chamberlain an average daily of 10 lb. or thereby. Colonel Hills is having good sport on the Whitehaugh private water. The trout are rising freely when the wind is anywise favourable. Wakersdam.—Monday, Matthew Forrest, Esq., 15 trout. J. B. Keith, Esq., 8 trout. THE DEE.—Glentanar.—W. Cunliffe Brooks, Esq., M.P., and party, Monday, 7 salmon, 7 to 12 lb.; Tuesday, 7 salmon, 6 to 11 lb.; Wednesday, 5 salmon, 6 to 13 lb.; Thursday, 9 salmon, 6 to 16 lb.; Friday, 4 salmon, 7 to 11 lb.; Saturday, 5 salmon, 8 to 13 lb. Fife Arms Hotel Fishings, Braemar.—Mr. Nichol, London, 9 salmon during last three days of the week. Invercauld private water.—Mr. J. O. Wordie and Rev. Professor Taylor, 12 salmon, during the week.—W. M.

Dove.

This has been another dull and dreary week. Cold rains have fallen every day, there has been very little sun, and anglers have been comparatively few and far between on our river. At the time there appeared promise of an abnormally early spring, but judging by the appearance presented by vegetation around me as I write, things will not be one bit earlier than they usually are. It has been truly a case of "Winter lingering in the lap of Spring," and it seems inclined to linger a good deal longer yet. To-day (Thursday) rain has been falling at intervals from morning until night; and if the skies and the barometer are any guide, there is a good lot more to come yet. The Dove is running high and rather discoloured. Trout have been rising a little more freely than last week, but this does not mean that they have been rising first-rate by any means. The d'shes to the few rods that have been out have averaged perhaps four brace each—not more. The killing flies have been pretty much the same as when I wrote last week, namely, the crowding, the April, and the cockwing duns, the iron blue, and the intermediate. The cad-bait will shortly be obtainable, and I should recommend its use at the bottom even before the cockspur worm.—THE SPLODGER.

Exe (Exeter).

Some salmon have been taken at Salmon Pool, and also Cowley Bridge and Pines Weir, Messrs. Routley and Passmore being successful, but number and weight I have not yet ascertained. I managed to capture a nice trout, 1 lb. 10 oz., at Cowley Bridge last Saturday evening with minnow, and it was in fine condition. Weather very cold and with N.E. and N.W. alternately, and a change is ardently wished for. River very clear, and low now.—J. A. KELLEY.

Ilfracombe.

Sea fishing, both with ground and hand lines, is now showing signs of improvement. Several strings of whiting pout has been caught from the boats, and those fishing from the rocks at the back of Compass Hill and the jetty have caught some nice pollack and pout. A quantity of fine lobsters and crabs have been brought in, some taken from the pots, others from holes in the rocks. The trawlers have had better catches of soles this week than they have had for the season. Weather at present stormy; wind blowing strong from the S.W.—E. COMER.

Lakes of Killarney.

No change since the last report. The wind is in the same point—north-east. The lakes are very low at present. A change is badly wanted. The following is the number of salmon taken since the last report:—April 17, Tom Ellet, two salmon, 25 lb.; Tim McCarthy, one, 10 lb.; James Mathew, one salmon, 13 lb.; Mr. B. Bernord, three salmon—one 24, one 14, one 10 lb.; Michael Doora, eighteen brown trout; Daniel O'Donoghue, one salmon, 14 lb.; Thade Marah, one salmon, 12 lb. April 18th, Mr. B. Bernord, one brown trout, 5 lb. April 19th, Dan Hayes, two salmon, 25 lb.; Michael Thornton, one, 13 lb.; John Downing, one 12 lb.; Pat Clifford, one, 12 lb.; Tim McCarthy, one 12 lb.; Jerry Robert, one, 12 lb. April 21st, Jerry Doyal, one peal—the first taken for the season—4 lb.; Pat Clifford, one salmon, 12½ lb.; Jerry Robert, one, 11 lb.; Pat Robert, one 10 lb. April 22nd, Tim McCarthy, two salmon, 24 lb.; Mr. B. Bernord, one 11 lb.; Owen Courane, one 19 lb.; Dan Courane, one, 14 lb. April 23rd, James Mathew, one, 16½ lb.; Dan Hayes, one, 11 lb.; Michael Glessane, one salmon, 21 lb. A fishing match to take place on 27th of April on the lower lake; the prize to be a rod, reel, and line, value £2—twelve entries made already. Whoever kills the most trout is the owner. No trout under 6 inches will count.—TIM MCCARTHY, fisherman.

Lugg and Arrow.

Both of these streams are still in good fishing order, but are a little lowered since last week, but both keeping clear and in splendid order for the fly, and if the wind would change from the east there is every prospect of some good dishes of fish being taken, as all the streams about here are well stocked with very fine fish. Notwithstanding the cold winds, the water has not been totally deserted, and several nice lots of fish have been taken. The Arrow was fished on Friday with the fly, and some nice trout were taken; the same day a few were caught in the Lugg. On Saturday, the Lugg was tried, but with poor sport, as the wind was rather rough at times, but they managed to land a few small fish with the blue duns. A gentleman tried the Arrow on Monday with

the March brown and stone fly, and took some very nice fish with both those flies. In the Lugg on Tuesday some very nice fish were taken with the fly, averaging from $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. each. There was but little doing in the Arrow on Tuesday, only two trout being landed. A nice dish was taken in the Arw on Wednesday with the March brown. There has been but little doing in the Ivington district. Fishing at Earsland has been very slow this week. The Pinsley is in nice order, and there have been some few very nice trout landed this week with the fly.—GWINNE.

Moy and Lough Conn (Ballina).

During the last fortnight we have had very poor weather for angling. Cold, north-easterly winds, and bright sunshine—consequently there have been only a few salmon killed on river or lough. For the last few days some nice baskets of trout have been got on the lough. From twelve to eighteen trout to each rod, weighing from $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. to $3\frac{1}{2}$ lb., all with fly. Mr. J. Gilchrist Clarke killed, in five days, seventy trout and one salmon. He had over half a dozen Gillaroo trout, the largest weighing $3\frac{1}{2}$ lb. We want rain and a south wind to make fishing better.—FRANK HEARNS.

Oulton Broad and Dyke (Lowestoft).

Roach fishing is well on now in these waters, and fish in good condition. Some very fine perch have also been taken up to 2 lb. This morning (29th April) shoals of grey mullet have made their appearance. It is very much to be regretted that no bait has yet been found for taking this fish upon these waters, as they are wonderful game, and would show some rare sport. Water is in a fine state. I have two gentlemen from Lynn staying here who are getting good sport.—GEO. MASON.

Severn (Kidderminster).

Several members of the United Brothers' Angling Society have been out this week, but little or nothing has been done. I have been out a part of two days, but only secured a brace of trout each day. I lost one, a nice fish over a pound. I had commenced to fish and had thrown my flies on the water, was in the act of pulling more line off the reel, when the fish rose at one of the drop flies. In striking quick, I struck too hard, the gut parted, and so did I and the fish. Mr. Walters, one of the members of the above society, was out last week, and secured three or four brace of trout, but they ran small. The Severn is very low and fine, and a nasty east wind prevailing, both tend to keep the fish in deep water. A few days' rain, and the wind in the opposite direction, good sport may be anticipated. Flies: Blue dun, February red, brown spider. Weather too cold for March brown or red spinner. Anent the salmon fly with treble hooks suspended, it is an old plan, and was in use twenty years ago.—E. E.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

Severn (Shrewsbury).

Since my last report I have only had one day's fishing, when I took four trout, averaging $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. each, with the minnow. From that time the wind has continued north and north-east, and being very cold, no fish rising. I have heard of a few taken. A very nice trout, weighing 13 oz., was landed with the blue dun yesterday morning by Mr. Beddall. The famed old troller, Mr. Perkins, also got one trout with the fly. The Severn is very low, and as clear as crystal. I am told that some more discretion might be exercised in the granting of "permits" to take rough fish, as a sack full of rough fish was seen up an entry, with a little girl in charge of the sack. The fish had evidently been taken with a net. On the father appearing he produced a permit, and the water-bailiff, Lloyd, says that his efforts are continually baffled by the production of these permits in many suspicious cases, and in several instances by reputed poachers. Considering the poaching that has been carried on by means of nets, no one can regret the efforts made to put an end to netting the Severn. I learn that a splendid trout of $2\frac{1}{2}$ lb. was taken with the minnow by Mr. Harrison on Monkmoor ford. Mr. Davies, of Queen Street, took a nice trout of 1 lb. with a blue dun this morning. The wind is still blowing from the east.—SEVERN GRAYLING.

[We certainly trust the Board will consider this matter of issuing "permits" to any applicant. It makes the law a dead letter.—ED.]

The wind during this week has been constantly in the east, and the weather very cold, anything but inviting to delicate anglers. I heard of one who caught a fine trout weighing $2\frac{1}{2}$ lb., and our river watcher tells me the same angler has taken several good fish during the week. Mr. Ellis, sen., on Friday last, landed a very nice trout of about 1 lb. with a minnow. Water at present very low and fine. Rain would improve angling greatly. The flies which will be found most killing in this district are March brown, blue dun, and stone fly.—SEVERN SALMON.

Taw and Tributaries (North Devon).

Some small dishes of trout have been killed, and, had I reported all the fish caught, it would be a great number; but I do not mention the dishes some gentlemen unblushingly bring home, as it is shameful to hear of four or five dozen fish, they being only young salmon. But the rivers have many fresh run salmon. One gentleman got a 12 lb. fish on Monday, and another, 18 lb., on Tuesday. I was told to-day by a gent that he had one 18 lb. this morning, and his son one 14 lb. yesterday. The wind is still east, and until a change it will be impossible to fish with any pleasure, and the sport will be, consequently, very trifling. The only chance one has is between 11 and 3 o'clock, when the sun is out, then only in the deep stickles.—RUSTY GAME.

P.S.—I hear a gent has run four fish to-day, but missed them, and he got three this week with minnow.

Teme (Ludlow).

The weather has kept very fine but cold, and the nights generally have been frosty. The water is in good order, and fishing has been pretty general in this district. Up the Leintwardine club district there has been nothing done at all this season, though the Trippleton waters were never stocked with better or finer trout. The members of the club do not visit the waters near so much as they were in the habit of doing some years since. Some nice trout were caught between Ludford Bridge and the New Bridge on Monday, with the March brown, and we saw four capital fish which were caught in the Folly the same day. Tuesday was like the first day of spring, and the fly was very strong upon the water. The Granham was on the water on Tuesday morning early, and stopped till mid-day, but we heard of no fish being taken with it, fishermen preferring to stick to the March brown. Some few fish have been caught around here with the spider fly on cold days. A gentleman fishing up the Clun, Monday and Tuesday, landed 17 trout on the first day, and 19 the second day, with the March brown, blue dun, and stone fly. On Saturday the Corve was visited up beyond the Felton waters; some eight or nine trout,

weighing nearly a pound each, were caught with the worm. There has been some good sport in the Ony, between Bromfield and Onibury, and some very good dishes of fish have been secured. We have heard of nothing doing in the Letwyche waters; in fact, we do not recollect these waters being so quiet. The wind to-day has got round to the South.—S. LUDLOW.

Teme (Tenbury).

This water still remains in good order for fly fishing, the weather of late being very unfavourable for throwing the fly, there being a nasty wind changing about from north-east to south, but being for the greatest part of the time in the east, and blowing very cold. The slight storm of rain which visited this part the end of last week has made the fish sport freely, and they are taking the blue dun and March brown well. The fish are rising more on the streams than in the deep water, where there have been but few fish to be seen rising. A gent tried the water on Saturday with the blue dun, and landed some very good trout. Near Easton Court some gents landed a nice lot of fine trout with the blue dun, some scaling over 1 lb. each. In the water near the town some very nice fish were landed with the March brown. On Monday some good sport was had in the down water with the fly, and a very nice lot of fine trout were taken. On Tuesday a gent tried the water above the bridge, and caught some nice trout with the fly. A small lot of trout were taken on Wednesday morning with the blue dun. The Kyre and Rea are in good order for the fly, but are rather low at present. A few nice trout have been taken in the Kyre with the fly, and a small dish was landed in the Rea this week. The Ledwyche is in good order, but we have not heard of anything being done this week.—WORCESTER.

Trent (Nottingham).

The river in this district is still low and clear, and is favouring salmon operations. Weekly the subscribers at Shardlow and Weston become more numerous, and never in any corresponding period of the year have the Trent Fishery Board issued a greater number of licenses. A rise, just now, would do good; still, we must not grumble. Since my last, Mr. Hopkin, of the Working Men's Institute, St. James's Street, Nottingham, has taken, in the Holme allotment, two grand fish of close on 40 lb.; and on Monday, Mr. Hopewell, of Nottingham, scored a couple of nearly 19 lb. each. These were killed with the worm, an artificial bait not being allowed. At Shardlow, Mr. Guttridge, of Derby, stands *fierte princeps* with a beauty of $24\frac{1}{2}$ lb.; Mr. Capeness has caught one of 15 lb.; Mr. I. Jackson, one of 17 lb.; Mr. H. Coxon (Nottingham), one of 16 lb.; Mr. M. Leek (Nottingham), one of $17\frac{1}{2}$ lb.; Mr. A. West (Nottingham), one of 14 lb.; Mr. J. Heard, of the same town, informs me that ten days ago he had one of $21\frac{1}{2}$ lb., and, like myself, he a lowed one to escape. On Wednesday, Mr. M. Dickinson (Nottingham) played a fish unsuccessfully for forty minutes, but afterwards he was taken in the nets with the angler's tackle in his mouth—he weighed $25\frac{1}{2}$ lb.—THE MAN AT THE CLUBS.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

The weather has been very showery of late, but there has not been sufficient rain to produce any perceptible difference in the height of the river in our neighbourhood. Salmon fishing has been pursued with unabated vigour, and the majority of the fish killed have run large. On Monday and Tuesday I tried the Shardlow and Weston lengths, but proved unsuccessful, the water getting too low and bright. On the first day Mr. Cartwright, a subscriber from Derby, caught a handsome fish of $24\frac{1}{2}$ lb. with the worm, in what is known as the Long Swim (Marshall's meadow); and on Tuesday Mr. Capeness, of the same town, got one in the "Channel" with the artificial minnow of 24 lb. This latter fish showed most exciting sport in a very rapid running stream, but being very cleverly handled was secured in twenty minutes. Mr. A. Brown took one at Wellington within a few ounces of 20 lb.; and Mr. Tyson landed one near Twyford, of 25 lb. There was nothing doing on Wednesday, the weather being too showery. Below Nottingham, Mr. Lowater took one of 16 lb. odd in the Weir Field; and his friend Mr. Green retaliated in a second of nearly 18 lb. I hear that the nets on Monday were used in the Muskham length, with the result that five fish, averaging 20 lb. a-piece, were caught. Anglers, however, would much like to see a rise.—THE MAN AT THE CLUBS.

Usk.

A cold wind has prevailed during the greater portion of the week with frosty nights. There was a fall of rain on Monday, but not in sufficient quantity to rise or colour the water, and occasional showers have since fallen. This afternoon (Thursday) rain is falling, and the barometer is inclined to go down. On Tuesday, Col. Locke took a small fish about 7 lb., and Mr. G. C. Browne landed one 11 lb. On Wednesday Mr. Browne was again successful, and brought home a 13-pounder.—ARGUS.

Waveney (Beccles).

I fear my reports must now be few and far between, or I shall get into disgrace with some of my crotchety angling friends. They consider it too bad to go angling at the present time, or to report catches, as the spawning season has commenced. But controversy differs widely on this matter, some asserting that the fish had spawned two or three weeks ago, while others say they will be some three weeks yet before they commence. I do not wish to contradict anyone on this point, but, as far as my experience goes, the fish had no appearance of it as late as Saturday last. I send, herewith, report of the Caxton Angling Club competition. There were some very nice fish amongst the catches made on Saturday last, many of them $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. and $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. fish.—A WAVENEY ANGLER.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

Wye and Derwent.

The wind still keeps in its old quarter, north and north-east, along with sharp, frosty nights, accompanied daily with hailstorms, which keeps the trout off the feed from feeding kindly; but still both the Wye, Lathkill, and Derwent are in splendid condition for fly-fishing, and baskets up to five brace per angler have been killed. I heard that Mr. Manners had been fishing the private waters on the Lathkill several days lately, but had had but poor sport. F. C. Arkwright, Esq., and other gentlemen, fishing about Rousley, have had fair baskets of trout. The killing flies have been claret bumble, spider, red, and hare's ear dun, and the fish have been killed mostly out of the ripples of the streams. The sand fly has killed a few fish late in the evening. I am very sorry to say that the disease amongst the grayling, both in the Wye and Derwent, is very bad just now. One of our fishermen here at Matlock Bridge picked out sixteen grayling dead in about a mile of water above Matlock Bridge, besides seeing many others dying in the river. It is the "fungus" disease that is amongst the fish again. Both the cornicate and cuckoo birds have arrived in Derbyshire.—GEORGE JAMES EATON.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

Wye (Herefordshire).

Water at present very fine; the fish are again badly diseased; the wind has changed to the N.W. On Saturday, April 26th, M. Power landed a good salmon. F. J. Gooding also landed one the same day, both fish weighing 21 lb.—VANSTONE.

SCOTCH NOTES.

THE GARRY.—A trout of 3 lb. weight was caught on Saturday afternoon by a Blair-Athole gentleman on the River Garry.

THE TAY.—On Birnam Hotel water yesterday, Mr. Butler had one fish, 10½ lb., and Mr. G. Poole, a fine basket of 12 trout, 13 lb.

LOCH ARD.—Sport has been very disappointing lately. A good number of anglers have been out, but only a few good takes have been secured. On Monday, Mr. E. Bolton secured 15 trout, weighing 9½ lb., one weighing 2 lb. Other two anglers had eight trout. On Loch Chon, on Saturday, Mr. Syme and friend secured 16 trout and 2 pike. On Loch Drunkie, on the same day, Mr. F. Bolton had 7 trout. The fishing would be much improved by a good fall of rain.

THE TUMMEL.—The weather on Wednesday was very unfavourable for angling. There was snow in the morning, and the atmosphere was dull and hazy throughout, and a cold easterly wind prevailed. Mr. C. L. Wood, of Freeland, and Mr. Bowton fished the Faskally water, and the latter succeeded in capturing two beautiful looking fish, weighing 15 lb. and 12 lb. respectively. There was a little improvement on the weather on Thursday, but the day was dull and cold. Mr. Wood and Mr. Bowton again fished this water, when the former got a very fine fish, weighing 22 lb. It gave some fine sport.—Mr. C. L. Wood, of Freeland, fished the Faskally water on Friday, and succeeded in getting a fish weighing 15 lb. The floods of late years have filled up a few good fishing pools on this part with shingle. On Saturday Mr. Wood again fished this river, but without success. The water is now very low. On Saturday, Mr. P. Gibson, Craighug, Moulin, and Mr. W. Young, Pitlochry, fished the Pitlochry Hotel water for a short time in the afternoon. There was very little ripple on the water, which was too clear for good sport. Mr. Gibson got two very good trout, one of which made a fine run. They weighed 2½ lb. and 1 lb. respectively. Mr. Young had a fish on for some time, but after a short time of exciting play the casting line gave way.

LOCH TUMMEL.—One boat was out on this loch on Saturday. The fish were taken remarkably well. Three beautiful trout were got, weighing 2 lb., 1½ lb., and 1 lb.

LOCH TAY.—On the Killin Reserved Water on Wednesday, Mr. R. Cobb, Kingston-on-Thames, killed a salmon of 13 lb. On Thursday, Mr. H. B. Walker, Leeds, killed a salmon of 20 lb.; and on Friday, Mr. J. R. Heaven, Withington, Manchester, had a fish of 17 lb., and Mr. C. Woodall, Scarborough, one of 14 lb. On the Killin Hotel Water on Wednesday, Dr. Teale, Scarborough, got two salmon of 25 and 10 lb.; on Friday, Dr. Teale, had one salmon 29 lb.; and on Saturday, Mr. C. Woodall had one of 20 lb., and Mr. McIntosh, Glasgow, one of 22 lb.

THE TAY.—The river is now rather low for successful angling. On the Killiechassie Water on Wednesday, Mr. E. O. Douglas' keeper had one salmon of 10 lb. On Thursday, Mr. J. Stewart Robertson's keeper had one of 19 lb. On the Birnam Hotel Water, on Wednesday, Mr. Butler killed a fish of 17 lb.

THE DOCHART.—Mr. R. W. Walker, Leeds, fished the River Dochart on Saturday, and got a nice basket of trout, some of them over 1 lb. in weight.

LOCH LEVEN.—Mr. P. D. Malloch, Perth, fished this loch on Wednesday, and killed thirty-one trout, weighing 29 lb. 4 oz.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

T. ROBINSON, Lancaster.—Write to Mr. D. Wells, 11, Leith Street, Edinburgh. We have not fished any trout waters nearer to Edinburgh than the Whitadder and Loch Leven.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

We have to hold over several letters.

THE RAILWAY PRIVILEGE TICKETS.

SIR,—I think it is hardly necessary or advisable to call a public meeting yet in the above matter. Up to the present we have only lost one company, the North-Western Railway—one of the most important, I am sorry to say.

I should like to say a word as to Mr. Crumplen's charge against "I. C. U." Suppose they are true, what then? Is it any argument against anglers being resolved that they will be united? Under such circumstances, it would be sensible that they should resolve that "I. C. U." should not benefit, supposing the charges proved against him. But if anglers are not thoroughly determined to unite, in spite of all opposition from those who ought to be their servants, but who it appears are determined to be their masters, and who, if they can't be masters of all the London anglers, are determined to start associations of their own, it should not matter to us what Mr. Crumplen thinks of "I. C. U." or what "I. C. U." thinks of Mr. Crumplen. Given a fairly representative system, and the possibility of getting the use of a room that would fairly accommodate the requisite number of representatives, then, I say, all who stand in the way of union are traitors, and should be treated as such—men who would rather be No. 1 in some small society than No. 2 in a grand federation of us all. Such men have been the curse of the world in all ages—twopenny-halfpenny Julius Cæsars.

Mr. Crumplen's remarks concerning the South-Western Railway are surely very absurd. It is useless to look a gift horse in the mouth. It is only reasonable that the railway companies generally should resolve that they will not have three different transactions when one might do, and it is only reasonable that in choosing an association out of the three that they should choose the largest and most influential. Besides, if the authorities on the South-Western Railway know anything about us, they know this—that the West Central Association has always been willing to promise unity among anglers on a fair basis,

which cannot be said of the other associations. For Mr. Crumplen to say it is cruel of the South-Western Railway to grant a monopoly to one association is extremely absurd, and, if it were not, it is mischievous. In the first place, it is kind to grant the privilege at all; and in the second, it is not granting a monopoly, because anyone can join the West Central Association, which, I trust, will soon be merged into one grand united association of London and provincial anglers, and let the best men win.—I am, &c., A. J. MARRIOTT.

THE RAILWAY CONCESSIONS.

SIR,—The London and North-Western seems to be the moving spirit in the withdrawal of these in this district. In conversation with one of the G. W. people, I was informed that their company did not wish to discontinue issuing the cheap tickets to anglers, but that the pressure brought to bear upon them by the above-mentioned company had been so great that they, the G. W., had been almost compelled to give way. This is borne out by the fact that the L. and N. W. and L. and Y. gave us notice that special fares to anglers would not be continued after the 17th March, whereas the G. W. for four or five weeks longer booked us at the reduced fares, and we had strong hopes that they would hold out. This is the greatest blow of all, as the routes by this line covered a great area of the very best fishing to be had from this City. In the midst of the gloomy outlook it is cheering to be informed, as I have just been, by letter, that the "Cheshire Lines Committee" confirm their schedule of reduced fares to the following stations: Bakewell, Delamere, Darley Dale, Duffield, Hartford, Northwich, Miller's Dale, Matlock Bridge, Matlock Bath, Plimbley, and Whatstandwell. These stations command the best portions of the Derbyshire Wye and Derwent and some good mere fishing, and I trust our members will give this company all the patronage they can and a little more. With regard to concerted action in obtaining a restoration of the concessions withdrawn, I am in communication with the hon. sec of "The Manchester and District Amalgamated Anglers' Association" (Mr. Ridgway) with a view to a simultaneous assault. I have drawn up a list of safeguards to be submitted to the railway companies as a basis for consideration, and have sent a copy to Mr. Ridgway to be approved of or otherwise. I am also in hopes of seeing him on Saturday next (May 3), I have no doubt we shall arrive at a united plan of attack.

The most cruel part of the whole affair is the reason given by the railway companies. "The privilege has been greatly abused," they write. Now surely, if they know this to be the fact, why have they not prosecuted and punished the offenders on whom they could without doubt have laid hands? We would have expelled at once any of these who might have belonged (a very remote contingency) to this Association, and have helped the companies in any way we could to secure convictions. As it is, the stigma rests on us all, and we feel it to be an injustice.—I am, &c., R. D. WOOLFALL.

Hon. Sec. Liverpool Angling Association.

THE ANGLING TOURNAMENT.

SIR,—Since my last report I beg to state that Mr. W. Thomas, of the Gresham Society, has offered as a prize a silver cup, value £2 2s.; and Mr. Martin, "Trent Otter," a pike rod and a roach rod, value 17s.—I am, &c., R. GURNEY.

[We think previous offers of prizes have not yet been acknowledged in our columns. Will Mr. G. please send list?—ED.]

SALMON TAKING BAIT IN SALT WATER.

SIR,—A week or two ago a correspondent asked if any bait be known likely to take salmon in salt on brackish water. The question of salmon being even so taken is one of the most doubtful known to anglers, many of whom disbelieve in it altogether. As a person of great experience on such matters, I would desire to tell your readers that there is one place—and one only—where I have known salmon to be so taken, and that not exceptionally, but regularly, year after year. That place is the Gare Loch, a beautiful arm of the Firth of Clyde. The water of course is salt. The sole bait found killing was, and I presume yet is, the herring "soyle,"—i.e., the fry of the common herring. I should be happy to give full information to any one calling on or addressing me here.—I am, &c., J. D. DOUGALL.

Bennett Street, St. James's Street, London, S.W.

THAMES TROUT TAKEN WITH A FLY.

SIR,—Since replying to Mr. Footitt's letter, about three weeks ago, in the FISHING GAZETTE, I have been informed, although it was generally believed the trout of 10 lb. taken at Sunbury was caught with a fly, there is a little mystery about it. I am, however, told upon the most reliable authority that many good trout have been taken with the fly over 9 lb. Mr. Andrews most certainly caught three quite up to this weight, two when fishing with the late Mr. John Harris, of Weybridge. Mr. Edward Lukyn has one of 10 lb. 2 oz. which was taken with a fly, and forms one of his collection in his museum. It was caught just opposite to his residence, and was landed by one of the Strouds. This gentleman has taken many others in the same way, one the season before last weighing 7 lb. 11 oz. Some years since he killed one at Moulsey Weir over 8 lb. with a very large salmon fly, and with the same fly took one under 1 lb. Thinking it was unusual for so small a fish to take a fly, he called Stroud, the fisherman, over to see it before returning it to the water. When I was at Maidenhead on Saturday last a friend of mine told me a brother of his some twenty years ago caught a fine trout of 11 lb. with a fly close to Maidenhead Bridge. This fish was well known, and very frequently tried for. It was caught without scarcely anyone knowing about it, and was afterwards frequently fished for until its capture was made known.—I am, &c., April 28th. W. H. BROUGHAM, sec. T. A. P. S.

"PARR PROSECUTIONS" ON WYE.

SIR,—I and my numerous little brothers and sisters have this year to thank you and Mr. Saxoring for your exertions in bringing before the public the cruel slaughter of us all during the last three or four years. I am very thankful to say very few as yet of us have been fried in Hereford as compared with former years, though we are still in great jeopardy, being so long kept from visiting the sea from want of some nice genial warm rain and fresh water, without which few of us care to start on our annual summer tour to the salt water; and as we are more than ever numerous, I do hope you and all other kind friends will try and preserve us from the numerous poachers and would-be sportsmen who infest the towns our beautiful river runs through. It's very sad for us, and only last week one of our grandfathers—a splendid old man of 28 lb.

weight, was found by a friend of yours dead with a very large gaff with cruel barb on it. We had hoped he would have come all safe again; but alas! the fates ordered it otherwise. He must have been struck during the late full moon on a long, shallow stream, although he managed to get up into a deep spot where your friend found him. Hoping that the times are improving for our numerous family,—I am, &c.,

"LITTLE PARR."

THE ROD USED BY "F. R. C. S."

SIR,—I see an inquiry in this week's FISHING GAZETTE about my stiff fly rod. It is rather difficult to describe a rod. It is 10 feet 5 inches long, and weighs 12½ oz.; American split cane, and there is not much play in it below the middle of the rod. I have had it in use now for five seasons, and it has had work—I should think, on an average, certainly two days a week, from April 1 to September, for that time. A fortnight since, in playing a trout of 2 lb. 6 oz., I noticed, I regret to say, symptoms of its being rather worn. This season, on the Anton, has opened very badly. For the last three weeks we have had an abominable north-east wind, and some frosty nights. There has been, however, a good sprinkling of fly on the water on many days, but the fish won't look at it, but insist on taking it under water before it comes to the surface. On Saturday, the 26th, the wind changed to south and south-west, and rain came, and I expected some improvement in the fishing; but no—the fish went on with their old game, and would not look at a floating fly. I should be very glad to hear what your correspondent, Mr. Hall, says about this. I trust that the trout are not going to strike. It looks uncommonly as if some fishy Joseph Arch had been among them. The few good fish I have had I got by sinking a hare's ear dun. I don't think I have observed the trout acting in this way at the early part of the season before. Later on last year, when feeding under water, several were taken by sinking a jenny spinner, which is usual y an evening fly. Will Mr. Hall give us his opinion as to what fly he uses at such a time, and whether he ever puts on a split shot, as suggested by Mr. Francis P.—I am, &c.,

F. R. C. S.

THAMES PROFESSIONAL FISHERMEN FISHING.

SIR,—I have read with some surprise Mr. C. Lumsden's letter in your last week's FISHING GAZETTE with reference to the above subject. I certainly am not at all surprised that he says he was not last Thursday worth a stamp, and has had no engagement for a week. It is not difficult to account for this, as the mere fact of his fishing by himself and advertising it is quite sufficient to lead to a dearth of patrons. I have seen him myself fishing alone in his punt, and therefore have always avoided fishing with him, and advised my friends to do the same, on this account.—I am, &c.,

A SUBSCRIBER.

RUNNING STREAMS.

SIR,—I have to thank you for your kind reply to my communication on "Running Streams." The fact is, Mr. Vernon, as I am informed, has lately purchased a mill at the end of the road, which is separated from the stream simply by the bank of it. Proprietors here of mills clean a certain portion of the river adjoining, solely for their own benefit, and it appears to me no one can legally claim or exercise any purchased authority from the road side over the stream—not even the parish, who claim the road up to the stream—I am, &c.,

GEORGE HARTON.

Loudwater, near High Wycombe, Bucks.

AIR BLADDER OF FISHES.

SIR,—If this subject is not too threadbare, and you are not too weary of inserting matter in connection with it, will you kindly allow me space for a word or two in reply to "Mark Antony"? Taking "M. A.'s" last query first, and assuming that the fish rises and sinks in the water by partially emptying and refilling its bladder, why should it experience more difficulty in procuring air for its swimming bladder than for the other functions of its body that require air. But, then, as "M. A." remarks, the bladder has no ducts, and, therefore, there can be no exhausting and replenishing processes, and some other explanation must be found for the facility with which the fish rises and descends in the water; and what more natural than "M. A.'s" other suggestion that the fish has power to compress the air bladder, and thus, since the volume of gas is inversely as the pressure increases its specific gravity sufficiently to sink in the water, and by relaxing the pressure, rise to the surface. When the fish is full of spawn, pressure on the bladder is constant, and the fish no doubt experiences greater difficulty in moving about from this cause alone. But there is one factor that appears to be usually omitted in discussions on this subject, and that is the muscular power of the creature itself. Some time ago, while walking by the side of a small stream, my attention was attracted by what I at first thought was the fantastic gambols of a perch about three-quarters of a pound in weight. After watching a little while, however, I was convinced that there was no fun in the case, but that the fish was making strenuous exertions to reach the surface, and to keep himself balanced when there. Several times he came to the top, but almost immediately helplessly sank again. I decided at last to get him out, and ascertain what was the matter. On his next ascent, therefore, I fished him out with my umbrella, and, having carefully killed him, sat down to examine him. I found the gills somewhat diseased, and on opening the fish discovered that his swimming bladder was burst, and yet this perch had sufficient muscular power, even in such an abnormal condition, to rise from the bottom to the top of the water several times, a distance of about three feet.

That fish have no power to empty and replenish the air bladder was, I think, conclusively proved in the dredging operations of the Challenger, when it was found that all the fish brought up from great depths were burst by the explosion of the bladder, caused by distension consequent upon the removal of the pressure of the deep water. I think if "M. A." were to collect some gas from the next fish he catches, he would find air only in the bladder.—I am, &c.,

J. C.

SALMON IN TROUT STREAMS.

SIR,—It is, I think, a well-settled fact that a certain length of stream will only feed to perfection a certain number of fish; this being so, if you have a stream stocked to its fair limit with trout and grayling, and then by artificial means turn in spawning salmon, what is the result? In the course of a few seasons there will be about ten times as many smelt as there were trout and grayling, and as the smelt are voracious fly-eaters, the supply of food for the trout and grayling is proportionately reduced, as, too, are the fish themselves both in size and condition.

Another point, too, from the fly-fisher's position is, that with a large number of smelt in a stream fly-fishing—instead of being a pleasure—becomes practically a nuisance, as the little beggars will take your flies whether you want them to or not, and at the end of the day you have the satisfaction of knowing you have given an airing to about 100 to 150 smelt, and have basketed possibly one brace of small trout. Pleasing, isn't it?

It is quite possible that the lower net and rod fisheries on the stream will be improved to a small degree by the increase of spawning ground; but I should not think the difference would be a great one, for when a salmon comes up to spawn it will do so somewhere before returning to the sea. This would, therefore, benefit a few money-making individuals, and a very few sportsmen, at the sacrifice of the sport of (at a moderate computation) a hundred or more trout-fishers. Is it selfish on the part of the many to wish to keep their fishing instead of giving it up (by means of artificial aids) to the problematical benefit of the few? I think not.

The idea of a salmon ladder up Aysgarth to the mind of a true trout-fisher is as great a piece of Vandalism as the late lamented bridge over the same place was to the eye and mind of all who love nature.

I quite anticipate being "sat upon" by Mr. Corry; but I don't care. I believe I am right, and unless he will give me actual proof to the contrary, I shall stick to my opinions.

You will be glad to hear that your friend, Mr. F. M. Walbran, was on Wednesday elected a member of the Otley Club (Wharfe).—I am, &c.,

CHAS. EDWD. FORBITT.

THE DRAG ON THE SALMON FLY.

SIR,—Every angler of the old school, the mundane religion and faith in which was a strict adherence to the once recognised notions of fair and legitimate appliances for the capture of his quarry—the tendency of late years to supplement which with questionable aids is growing more and more in favour, if the encouragement given to trade efforts to introduce novelty is to be taken as a measure of popularity. There existed a time when to place a gentle on the point of a fly hook, or a piece of wash-leather to emulate the entrails of a May fly, would have been looked upon as a slight indication of a poaching spirit; and to arm the hook with a worm, and use it upon a trout stream, would insure the refusal of renewed permission to fish any private water. Since then, although the minnow has been strictly tabooed, artificial fly-minnows may be purchased at any tackle shop, and that they are used—although on the sly, behind the back of the keeper—there is too much reason to believe.

These remarks are induced by reading Mr. Harbottle's, the hon. sec. of the Northumberland Angling Club, letter in your issue of the 19th inst., which you have honoured by endorsing with an illud ration. In the first place, there is no novelty in the addition. It will be found to be no more or less than a pike fly, as pictured in some of the American angling books, and was for that purpose always suggestive of the properly denounced practice of snatching, now punishable on the Thames, the only difference being that the fish, whether they be roach, perch, bream, &c., are enticed by a bait poised perpendicularly over the triangular hooks, and are misused and mutilated more often than caught, and perhaps left disembowelled to die a lingering death. The triple snatching-hook is a favourite with the poachers on the Trent, particularly at Gainsborough, and men have been severely punished who have been detected using it. In certain pools of the salmon rivers of Ireland and Scotland in which the salmon rest on their upward transit to the reds, the bait is a "dollop" of worms, and men of position in the former kingdom, I regret to say, have been detected in indulging in, and fined for, this disgraceful occupation.

Surely we cannot be too jealous of the purity of our beloved pursuit, or too watchful not to admit anything which should tend to corrupt its poetical and picturesque aspirations, nor give an excuse for any laxity on the part of the unscrupulous, and to point to the fair and honest anglers as those who set them the example.—I am, &c.,

CREEL.

[We must admit that our first idea of the "drag" was that it looked rather poacher-like; but as long as it is perfectly legitimate to kill salmon with a heavy metal or other minnow, armed with three or four triangles, it seems absurd to complain of one small triangle being added to the fly—to strain at one small one at the top of the water, and swallow four large ones at the bottom. As regards the abuse of tackle of any kind by poaching pot-hunters, nothing will stop that but punishment. We do not write for pot-hunters, or take them into account.—ED.]

CARP FISHING IN THE EXETER CANAL.

SIR,—The coarse fish now having a long respite, and trout fishing being at a standstill of an evening, waiting the income of the moths and May-fly, one can recall the doughty deeds of the past, and while refreshing my memory, recollect one or two days' fair carp fishing I enjoyed last August in the Exeter Canal with that capricious old "water fox," the carp. My *modus operandi* was to frequent a spot where I had previously seen some beauties basking in the sun, and overnight (about dusk) groundbait the spot selected with some stale bread, with large proportions of Spratt's Meal (which I procured in three sorts, viz., fine, medium, and coarse), and made into a mash. At day-break next morning, I sallied forth, and with a fair lot of clean-scoured gentles, waged war. Putting four or five on my hook, I let it rest about four inches on the bottom, which was only reached with 14 feet of line. My first bite aquired badly, as with one tremendous rush, away went my gut collar. I soon put on another very strong gut, and in about ten minutes my line was gliding quietly from me. I gave a slight strike, and found my hook was well home. Away went Mr. Carp into deeper water, and helped himself to a dozen yards; then we had a short tussle, and I got in a few yards, then another frantic pull. After two or three repetitions I was able to take liberties with my friend, and found by a somersault movement I had hooked a fine fish, and when I eventually landed my captive, he took my scale balance point to number nine in the pounds. Then came a spell for nearly half an hour—nothing to be done but exercise patience, and admire the beautiful sunrise over the hills and the sweet warblings of Devon's best songsters. However, everything comes to the fisherman who waits, and I had another of 5½ lb., and wound up with one 3½ lb., but the heat being great and the sun's rays powerful, I wended my way to the ever faithful and loyal city, and astonished my friends and neighbours alike with my catch.

I notice among several books I have purchased on the conferences he'd in connection with the Great Fisheries Exhibition one by Mr. J. P. Wheeldon, which I have perused with great interest and pleasure, and shall assuredly try one or two of his recipes for the capture of these wary carp.

The day following the one just spoken of I tried with red worm, scoured some time in moss, and I succeeded in landing three carp, the largest weighing 4½ lb., and a few small perch, finishing up with a tench 1½ lb. weight.

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Correspondents are requested to write on one side of the paper only, and give their real names and addresses, not necessarily as signatures to their letters, but as a guarantee of good faith. Unless this rule be adhered to, no notice will be taken of such communications.

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The Fishing Gazette.

SATURDAY, MAY 10, 1884.

SALMON IN THE UPPER EXE.

A FEW years ago the man who on the Tiverton waters would, at this early season of the year, relinquish trout fishing to go in pursuit of salmon, might have expected to meet with plenty of ridicule. Salmon in those days were, although not unknown in the upper waters of the Exe, few and far between. An occasional fish might have found its way upwards, but not in numbers strong enough to make salmon fishing a pursuit worth following.

Now it is different: the big floods of early spring have brought up fish in plenty, and, while the water is high, at all events, trout fishing must take second place. Within a couple of miles of Tiverton, and over a stretch only of a couple of hundred yards, nearly a dozen fish were observed sporting one day this week; and I hear that on the same day one angler landed three fish, weighing in the aggregate 45 lb., two or three miles lower down. Another day, I saw a gentleman, on his return from fishing the same water, whose basket contained five splendid salmon, all newly up and bright as silver.

If the river keeps in order, there will be grand salmon fishing in the upper waters this season.

There does not seem to be much doing among the trout just now. A few fish are being taken with dark April and yellow duns, but nothing worth writing about. The weather has been far from favourable for a rise of fly, and I fancy there will be little to record on this head until it is warmer.

R. A.

SPINNING BAITS FOR PIKE AND SEA FISH.

MR. T. C. ASHTON, of 192, Brunswick Street, Sheffield, sends us some very nicely-made, strongly-mounted metal spinning baits, electro-plated. There is nothing new about them, but any anglers who want a thoroughly reliable spinning bait for perch, pike, or bass, will do well to get this bait, which is made in four sizes, at 1s. 5d., 1s. 8d., 1s. 11d., and 2s. 2d., post free. At our suggestion, Mr. Ashton has mounted them with Mr. McMullen's patent swivel, made by Messrs. Allcock and Co., of Redditch.

A KILLING TROUT BAIT.

SOME time ago we mentioned that Mr. James Ogden, of 28, Winchcomb Street, Cheltenham, was bringing out a new spinning bait for trout, which we liked very much. It was made in metal (silver and gilt), and we suggested to Mr. Ogden that it would be a perfect bait if he would get some coloured to resemble the natural minnow one would choose for spinning with—brown back, olive sides, with black bars and white belly. He has had some coloured in this way, and we can strongly recommend all who fish for trout with a spinning bait to try this. It spins superbly even in dead water (the spiral shape of the body aids the spin very much), and the hooks are mounted on revolving wires.

AN "AMICABLE" REPORT.

SINCE January, 1879, we have published more than five thousand "reports" from angling societies, but we have never been asked to publish such a truly "amicable" one as the following:—

AMICABLE BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

At a special meeting, held on Wednesday, April 30th, to take into consideration the anglers' privilege tickets which have been withdrawn and suspended, the following resolution was passed, "That, in the opinion of this meeting, the conduct of Mr. P. Geen, in interviewing the railway authorities and slandering the anglers of London by accusing them of misuse of privilege tickets, is deserving of severe censure, and hereby expresses its detestation of one who is only working to gain his own ends—certainly not for the benefit of the general body of London anglers."—J. HORLEDGE, sec.

It is only in the nature of things that a gentleman holding the prominent position Mr. Geen does in the angling world should have enemies—men who are jealous of the esteem and respect in which he is held, and who know that he stands in the way of their attaining those personal and selfish objects to gain which they are ready to sacrifice every interest of the general body. We are only sorry to find that a club like the "Amicable Brothers" have allowed themselves to be hoodwinked by the specious sophistry of men who never dare to attack Mr. Geen face to face. We cannot help thinking that the members of this club will come to admit that in passing such a resolution as the above they have insulted and wronged a man who for many years has devoted all his energy to promote the interests of anglers, spent hundreds of pounds in this service, and who has never received, or, for that matter, would accept, one farthing in return. Who was it that at once recognised the importance of the Sheffield anglers' agitation for the protection of our coarse fish, and, against all kinds of opposition, led the London anglers to unite with them and obtain that protection? A reference to the published records of that agitation will convincingly prove that Mr. Geen was the leading spirit in that movement, and its successful issue was chiefly owing to his energy. There has not been a single matter affecting the interests of London club anglers in which Mr. Geen has not taken a leading part, whether it be in connection with the railway privileges, the Anglers' Benevolent Society, the obtaining of waters and stocking them with fish, the amending of fishery laws and by-laws, and numberless other matters. Mr. Geen may not have been invariably right in the course he has advocated—to err is human; but that his motives are completely unselfish and disinterested is as certain as that the charges brought against him are baseless and mean.

To the members of the "Amicable" Society and all those who affect to believe that Mr. Geen has been "slandering the London anglers" to the railway companies, and that he is "working only to gain his own ends and not for the benefit of the general body of London anglers," we recommend the following brief statement of fact. The London and South-Western Railway Company gave notice that they intended to withdraw the anglers' privilege tickets, the reason they gave being the difficulty of dealing with the abuse of the tickets. They have now decided to give the whole body of club anglers another chance by issuing one ticket to one association, through which every club in London can obtain them. The association it is proposed to deal with is the West Central, numbering far more members than both the Central and the East Central combined. It was of the utmost importance that the concession should be secured in some way if possible, in the "interest of club anglers generally." It will hardly be credited that on Tuesday last a deputation from the East Central and the Central Associations waited on Mr. Verrinder, of the L. and S. W. R., and fearing there was no chance of the continuance of the three tickets, they, as a body, unanimously told Mr. Verrinder that they would rather see the privileges withdrawn entirely than take them through the medium of the West Central Association. What will the individual members of the societies composing these associations say to this? Will they consider that this is looking after their interests? Mr. Geen, who happened to be present from the West Central Association, immediately said, rather than accept the proposal of the deputation to withdraw the privileges, let them come through a dozen associations, or in any way so long as they were not withdrawn. He then, in presence of the deputation, told Mr. Verrinder the charges that had been brought against him, that he had endeavoured to magnify the abuses of the privileges in order to get the companies to withdraw them or issue them only through his association, and he appealed to Mr. Verrinder to state what were the real facts. To this Mr. V. replied that Mr. Geen had never done other than endeavour to explain and clear up any complaints of abuses they had had to make, and had done all in his power to induce the company to continue the concession. It simply comes to this: if Mr. Geen had not moved in the matter the concession would have been withdrawn entirely; if, as we trust he may, he

is able to get the company to reconsider the matter, and try the single ticket system—the only plan they will consider *at all*—then every club angler will be in a position to enjoy the privilege exactly at the same nominal expense that he did before. The case reminds us of the judgment of Solomon. The East and Central Association deputation says, “kill the babe rather than let it be in Mr. Geen’s care.” Mr. Geen says, “let it live on any terms rather than destroy it entirely.” We are not personally interested one iota as to whether the privileges are withdrawn or not, but we have always considered them an immense and much-appreciated boon to the mass of London anglers. We leave them to decide who is really working for them—those who, through pique and jealousy, would make them pay full fare every time they travel on the L. and S. W. R.; or those who are endeavouring to save their pockets by getting the concession renewed on the only terms the company will ever consider. We must also leave Mr. Geen to answer those who have so groundlessly attacked him.

CLUB AND OTHER JOTTINGS.

By L. B.

THE annual meeting of the United London Anglers’ Central Committee was held at the Bald Faced Stag, Worship Square, Finsbury, on Monday evening, May 5th, Mr. W. Metcalfe in the chair. After the reading and confirming of the minutes of the previous meetings, and some feeling allusions to the sudden decease of the late chairman, Mr. S. Morgan, some important business was transacted, the first being the report of Mr. Ghurney and the other gentlemen who had that very morning waited upon Mr. Verrinder, of the South Western Railway, as a deputation from this committee, of the result of their representation. Mr. Verrinder had received the deputation very courteously, carefully listened to all that was said, and promised that same would receive due consideration; meanwhile he regretted it had been found necessary to suspend the issue of anglers’ privilege tickets on their railway.

Mr. Ghurney did not know what the result of the interview would be; perhaps, if it were not as they wished and hoped, it might be deemed advisable to forward or make representations to the highest authorities on the London and South Western Railway. Anyway, this committee, and the anglers it represented, would only accept the privilege on the same terms as they held it before, or not at all. (Hear, hear.)

Among the other business done was the unanimous election of Mr. W. Metcalfe to succeed Mr. S. Morgan as chairman of this committee; the election of Messrs. Metcalfe, Aldridge, Manning, Theobald, and Ghurney to be representatives from this association at all meetings of the West Central Association of London and Provincial Angling Societies; the election of Messrs. Dymond, Manning, High, Bentley, Aldridge, Clark, and Chambers to the Committee of the Anglers’ Benevolent.

The sum of £10 10s. was then handed to Mr. Thomas Spreckley towards the funds of the Thames Angling Preservation Society—Mr. Spreckley, in a kindly, genial speech, which was frequently cheered, acknowledging same. Mr. W. H. Brougham also adding a few humorous words in that happy manner which is so particularly his own.

It was further decided that the yearage should be one shilling, exclusive of the shilling charged by the United Fisheries Society.

A vote of thanks was passed to the deputation who waited on the London and South Western Railway Company.

Notice of motion was also given to consider the advisability of appointing a Working Committee to this association, the meeting being then adjourned until Tuesday, the 13th inst., at 9 o’clock, the following clubs being represented:—Alexander, Eustonian, Albert, Gresham, Stepney, Phoenix, West Central, Izaak Walton, Cavendish, Dalston, Edmonton and Tottenham, Hand-in-Hand, Sociable Brothers, Hoxton Brothers, South Hornsey, Amicable Brothers, Original Alexandra, Hearts of Oak, Great Northern Brothers, North Eastern, Bow Bells, Original Clerkenwell Piscatorial, Burdett, Alliance, Odds and Evens, West Ham, Metropolitan, West Green, Act on the Square, Cavendish, Stoke Newington, Convivial. Bailiffs: W. High, A. Williams, A. Clarke. From West Central Association: Messrs. P. Geen, G. Field, R. Murphy, Starr, L. Bonvoisin.

The following is from the *Jewish Chronicle* of May 2nd, and the truth of the remark will strike all those who have given the question any consideration at all. That freshwater fish are good nourishing food is beyond doubt; it remains for our wives or servants to dress and cook them so as to make them attractive. Surely, though it may mean a little extra trouble, the thing is easy.

“The Fisheries Exhibition last year has had apparently little

effect in teaching the anglers of the Norfolk Broads and rivers that their freshwater fish would find a ready sale in London. Mr. P. Soman, at a meeting last week at Norwich, refuted the idea that tench, bream, perch, roach, and dace were unfit for human food. He very truly pointed out that the Jews were able to cook these fish in an attractive and nourishing manner. It is remarkable that no enterprising fishmonger negotiates for the purchase of the fish that are daily thrown away by thousands along the Yare and other famous waters in Norfolk.”

[We fear that any general demand for coarse fish for *food* would inevitably lead to their being sought after by poachers. No true angler ever *sells* the fish he catches.—ED.]

NOTICES OF TACKLE, &c.

MR. A. BULMER, 62, Wandsworth Road, S.W., sends us some twisted tapered gut top casts, made from drawn gut and stained a pale smoky blue—best gut stain of all, in our opinion. We recently tried one of these, used it all day long, and found that it answers very well indeed. It is put on between the winch line and the single gut collar, and, as it casts better, falls more lightly on the water, and is less visible than the opaque (and in proportion much heavier) winch line, we can strongly recommend it. We remember, some years ago, seeing plaited or twisted hair top casts in use on the Yorkshire and Cumberland trout streams by local fly-fishers, but have never before seen or used a gut top cast of twisted drawn gut for trout; for salmon, of course, they are generally used. This “top” cast—we do not know what other name to give it—should be “married” to the winch line, so as to pass through the rings easily when winding up to land a fish.

LEWIS’S WONDERFUL POCKET-KNIFE.—Messrs. David Lewis and Co., Pinstone Street, Sheffield, send us one of their “wonderful” pocket-knives for notice. It is made with either ivory or rough bone handle (which we prefer) on a brass case, has a long, strong, large blade, and two smaller ones, all of excellent steel, and stamped with Messrs. Lewis’s name. Seeing that this capital pocket-knife can be had post free by sending 1s. 4d. in stamps to Messrs. Lewis, we certainly think they are entitled to call it a “wonderful” knife. At a retail shop one would have to give more than double the money for a knife of equal quality.

THE “MARSTON” TROUT-FLY ROD.

SOME years ago I was trout-fishing on the Barle at Tarr Steps, and was very much taken with the play of a little trout rod used by a friend, the Rev. Joseph Jekyll. Mr. Jekyll, who has since died, was one of the same school of genuine enthusiastic sportsmen as the late Rev. Jack Russell. He made his own flies, and had fished the Barle for forty or fifty years. He very kindly said that if I liked the next time he was in Tiverton he would call on Mr. Mudford and select for me a rod like his. He did so, and, although I have had many trout rods, I never had one I like so much as this. Many friends, when out fishing with me at various times, have said they would like to get rods like it. I asked Mr. Mudford who made the original, and he said it came from Messrs. Allcock and Co., of Redditch. I thought the best thing I could do was to get it copied as nearly as possible, and that the best people to do this would be the wholesale firm, Messrs. S. Allcock and Co., who made it originally. Mr. A. suggested he should call it the “Marston” rod, and I agreed, on the understanding that the price should not be high, that the wood used should be thoroughly seasoned, and that my rod, which I lent for the purpose, should be copied as nearly as possible. This has been done, and I am satisfied with the result. Of course, as Messrs. Allcock point out, it is impossible to get all the wood with exactly the same spring; but as long as they use the same wood and same ferrules the play will be pretty much the same.

It will be seen from the above that I did not invent the pattern. I only recognised its merits, just as almost all anglers do who see it. I do not pretend that there is anything wonderful about it, or that it will teach a man how to throw a fly, but if he knows anything at all about it, he will be delighted with the way this little three-joint, ten-foot rod meets him half-way, and with its lightness and steel-like spring make casting the fly a pleasure, even after nine or ten hours of it. Without being limber in the least (I hate limber rods), it springs to the hand, and there is no double action. It is mounted with small upright rings (much the best, I find). An old correspondent of the *GAZETTE*, “Watchet,” with whom I was fishing last year, has been one of the most persistent in desiring to have a rod like it. He got one the other day, and writes as follows:—“The rod is simply perfect. I got eight brace of fine trout with it yesterday in the Driffield water, and I send you three brace of them.” The six weighed as nearly as possible 5 lb. 8 oz., and were fine fish.

The following firms have informed me they intend to keep the “Marston” rod in stock. It sells at 17s. 6d. and 21s., and both rods have two tops, partitioned bag, and spud screw. I have only seen the 17s. 6d. rod, so cannot say what the “extra finish” consists of—that it will not catch one fish extra is pretty certain. The

plainer a rod is, and the fewer the blister-raising brass rings there are on the butt the better.

The following firms desire me to say they keep the rod in stock. Each rod has Messrs. Allcock's label, and the name "Marston" Rod, on the butt.

Mr. WM. MUDFORD, Tiverton.

Mr. BULMER, 62, Wandsworth Road, London.

Messrs. O'HANDLEN & CO., 48, Victoria Street, Bristol.

Messrs. GILLET & CO., 40, Fetter Lane, London.

Messrs. FOSTER, Ashbourne, Derbyshire.

Messrs. HARDY BROS., Fenkle Street, A'lnwick (who will also fit their capital "Weeger" winch fitting to it when ordered).

Messrs. WATSON & SONS, 308, High Holborn, London.

Mr. GEO. T. COX, Parchment Street, Winchester.

Mr. W. J. CUMMINS, Bishop Auckland.

Mr. D. SLATER, 8 and 9, Portland Street, Newark.

Mr. FRANK HANCOCK, 79, Calverley Road, and 2, Chapel Place, Tunbridge Wells.

Messrs. ALFRED & SON, 20, Moorgate Street, London.

Messrs. WILLIAMS & CO., 10, Great Queen Street, London, W.C.

Messrs. NUTTING & CO., 70, Edgbaston Street, Birmingham.

Mr. PEARSALL, The Arcade, Birmingham.

Mr. C. A. STEVEN, 15, West Street, Berwick-on-Tweed.

Mr. T. HARRIS, 7, Berkeley Street, Gloucester.

The size of winch line should be suited to the rod. I shall be happy to cut a few inches off my line for anyone wanting to get a line to suit this rod.

R. B. MARSTON.

DON FLIES.—ABERDEENSHIRE.

IN the matter of flies the inference of a stranger, even an experienced angler, on visiting first the Don and then the Dee, would naturally be that for these rivers they must differ pretty much in character and appearance. Two rivers running almost parallel for the greater part, and debouching within a couple of miles of each other, could not well be more dissimilar in general aspect. Yet, barring a few minor details, the flies found suitable for the one prove equally so for the other. Claret (fiery), orange, and black, in the order named, are the best Dee colours; orange, yellow, and yellow intermixed with light brown, the best Don colours. A fly with strip ginger speckled turkey wings, pretty bushy teal hackle round the shoulder, and mohair body of the last named colours blended, invariably kills well on the Don, and stands fully as high in the estimation of many Don anglers as any other pattern. On the whole, the Don requires to be fished deep—we mean the fly has to be well sunk; hence the necessity for using pretty heavy irons generally. Scarcely any of the Dee patterns, if dressed on short weighty irons and abundantly hackled, not long but full, are unsuitable for the Don. The "grey heron," already described in the GAZETTE under the heading of "Dee Flies," is *facile princeps* the Don killer over a long range of the river's course. On the Don brazed double irons are little used; on the Dee they are greatly in vogue, especially during the grilse season. The longer and slenderer the hook in proportion to the size of the fly required the better for Dee use, unless in heavy water; for Don angling the ordinary Limerick strongly made is best under any circumstance whatever. Generally speaking, a rich full hackle, not too long, is most suitable for Don flies, and a long-fibred spare hackle for Dee flies. Don flies are often considerably improved if the mohair is fairly well picked out, not, however, to such an extent as in some of the Dee patterns. The tinsel of all genuine Dee and Don patterns, except of the fancy order, is wound on in spiral form, closely or openly, as the case may be. They are, therefore, free from butts and jointings. Still, in many cases, they are none the more easily dressed, as those who have tried will be able to testify. "Jock Scott," "Childers," "Butcher," "Popham," and claret-hackled "Thunder and Lightning" are excellent Don killers of the strictly fancy order. These well known and pretty general favourites require no further notice. The yellow eagle for evening fishing on the Don is as much in favour as the "Gordon," "grey," and "white eagles" are on the Dee. It may seem incredible that the "Gordon," such a slaughterer—the greatest—on the Dee, should be almost ignored by Don anglers. Yet such is the case, though for what reason we cannot explain. We have now the pleasure of giving a detailed description of a number of selected Don patterns:—

No. 1.—Tag: Fine gold thread and light blue floss. Tail: A topping, about an inch in length, and small golden pheasant tippet. Butt: Black ostrich herl. Body: Yellow and black mohair, finely laid, one-third yellow and two-thirds black. Ribbed: Silver twist. Hackle: Common cock—yellow down the yellow, black down the black part of the body, fibre longish. Wings: In strands, mottled turkey, yellowish dyed, ginger speckled turkey, mallard, pheasant and bustard, three strips of yellow swan, one on either side and one on top, a large topping over all. A long and full guinea-fowl hackle round shoulder. Cheeks: Jungle. Head: Black herl.

No. 2.—Tag: Silver twist and blue floss. Tail: A topping and Indian crow. But: Black ostrich herl. Body: One turn orange floss, three turns yellow mohair, and one turn crimson mohair; flat silver tinsel, broad, and laid on pretty thickly. Wings: In strands, ginger speckled turkey, black and white striped turkey, pheasant, bustard and parrot, red, blue and yellow swan, powdered blue macaw, and a topping over all. Teal round shoulder in fair quantity. Cheeks: Blue chatterer. Head: Black herl.

No. 3.—Tag: Silver tinsel and pale green floss. Tail: Golden pheasant saddle feather, full and long. Body: Three turns blue and two turns orange mohair, well picked out; narrow silver tinsel, exactly six turns. Wings: Mixed, ginger speckled turkey, yellow

swan, bustard, pheasant, teal, and mallard. Spare black heron hackle close to head. Teal round shoulder. Black head.

No. 4.—Tag: Gold twist. Tail: Golden pheasant saddle feather and greenish herl. Body: One turn yellow, two turns green, and three turns scarlet mohair; flat gold tinsel, laid on pretty thickly. Yellow hackle of longish fibre well down body. Light brown turkey wings. Guinea-fowl round shoulder. Black head.

No. 5.—Tag: Gold twist. Tail: A few fibres greenish herl, and a couple of jungles. Body: Very dark orange mohair; flat gold tinsel. Wings: Strips of brown and black turkey, with white tips, speckled; between these about a dozen fibres bronze peacock herl. Hackle: A coch-y-bondu down body. Guinea-fowl rather sparingly round shoulder. Black head.

No. 6.—Tag: Silver tinsel about a quarter of an inch in extent. Tail: Fibres of golden pheasant tippet. Body: Mouse, red and dark brown mohair in equal proportion; narrow silver tinsel three turns. Wings: Light brown turkey strips with black tips. Black heron hackle round shoulder. Black head.

No. 7.—Tag: Silver tinsel. Tail: A small topping and Indian crow. Body: Three turns bright yellow and two turns red mohair; narrow silver tinsel five turns. Wings: Sand-coloured turkey strips. Yellow cock hackle well down body. Teal round shoulder. Black head.

No. 8.—Tag: Silver tinsel and yellow floss. Tail: A mixture of golden pheasant rump and saddle feathers. Body: Three turns orange and two turns light blue mohair, well picked out; flat medium silver tinsel. Wings: Brownish barred turkey strips with black tips. Hackle: Black heron close to head. Teal round shoulder. Black head.

No. 9.—Tag: Gold thread. Tail: A small quantity of black heron. Body: Black mohair; silver and gold tinsel alternately. Wings: Strips of mallard. Hackle: Very long black heron completely down body. Teal round shoulder. Black head.

No. 10.—Tag: Silver tinsel. Tail: A small topping. Body: Two turns orange, one turn red, and two turns dark brown mohair, well picked out; five turns flat medium silver tinsel. Wings: two strips rich brown turkey with black bar and white tip. Black heron hackle from red mohair. Teal round shoulder. Black head.

No. 11.—Tag: Silver thread and yellow floss. Tail: A small topping. Body: orange and black floss—orange about a quarter of an inch—the rest black; silver tinsel and gold flatworm. Wings: Precisely the same as for No. 10. Hackle: Black heron half-way down body rather sparingly. Claret hackle not very full round the shoulder. Black head.

No. 12.—Tag: Gold thread. Tail: Fibres of tippet longish and full. Body: Orange and light brown mohair equally; broad gold tinsel four turns. Wings: Light brown turkey strips. Red cock hackle half-way down body, and very full at shoulder. Black head.

W. M.

BAITING WITH THE WIRE OR NEEDLE.

IN a recent FISHING GAZETTE I read the letter of "Green Wren," and your editorial comment in reference to the use of the wire or needle for baiting the shrimp and colley. "Green Wren" is quite right in stating that the needle has been in use on the Lee for some years for the baiting of the shrimp, and also of the colley. You quoted from the files of the GAZETTE in 1880, a short description I furnished at that time, in reply to a request of the Editor, with regard to the "colley," or "colloch rue," by which name it is known in the country districts. I have nothing to alter in that description beyond the fact that the colley has been as successful as ever as a bait for salmon, but that the good old principle of mounting it upon a single hook has been practically done away with, and it is now baited with the needle or wire upon two, and sometimes three, sets of triplet hooks. The shrimp is invariably mounted upon triplets—for experience has taught the angler that these possess great advantage over the single hook. The needle has become a necessity to the baiting of a shrimp, and it is employed in two ways. The shrimp is a species of fish that requires very delicate handling. It is easily broken, and to put it on a hook, as one would turn a worm, is extremely difficult, if not impossible. From the first time its use as a bait became known, it was obviously necessary that some simple method should be adopted for placing a shrimp firmly on the hook. A coarse description of needle or wire was first invented, but this has been improved upon, and almost perfected by Mr. W. Haynes, and his brother, Mr. George Haynes. There are two plans now employed. In one case, a needle is passed through the shrimp, and the gut attached to it is drawn through until the end is reached. Two sets of triplets are invariably fitted, one about an inch from the other. The first is drawn close to the shrimp's head, the other being left projecting for reasons which will be explained further on. The eye of the needle is fitted with a spring which permits the loop of the gut to be inserted or removed. A swivel on the line at the rod end gives the same facilities when it becomes necessary to disengage the gut for the purpose of baiting. The second process is somewhat simpler, but more clumsy. The needle becomes part of the fixed mounting. The gut is fitted with two triplets, one being placed about two inches from the other. The eye of the needle is fastened on the head of one triplet, and at the head of the end triplet is a loop of gut, in which the point of the needle is held after it has been passed through the body of the shrimp. The needle remains in the bait skewer-like, and is held at the head and point in the manner stated. It is urged by some anglers that the use of triplets is opposed to the principle of fair fishing. A professional angler, lately introduced to the Lee, was on

one occasion, a month ago, chafed with the observation that his party were not killing like the gentlemen on the opposite bank. His reply was significant. "I fish fairly," he said, "but don't go stroke-hauling." The ungenerous and thoughtless remark had reference to the fact that the gentlemen on the other side fished with triplet tackle. As one good argument is worth any number of vague assertions, I will explain how I myself became a convert to the use of the triplet. Four years ago Mr. Geo. Haynes and I went out with some friends for a day's fishing. He and I divided the preserve, he going to the lower section, and I remaining in the upper part. I soon found that the fish were eagerly taking the shrimp. My tackle consisted of a single hook about an inch and a half in length, fitted with a needle of much more primitive construction than the one now in use; the bend of the hook was on a line with the head of the shrimp. I landed two or three salmon, but had met over a dozen. Mr. Haynes joined me at luncheon in the afternoon. He had two salmon, which were also taken on the shrimp. I informed him of the many fish I had met, but failed to bring. "Your tackle," he said, "is bad, and that is the reason you missed them. Never depend upon a single hook with shrimp. You should always have a projecting triplet, for salmon will frequently only catch the horns or the head of the shrimp, and you will never hook them with the one hook." I replied, "You had better try your triplet arrangement where I failed." In the first cast he was in a salmon, and landed it. Before evening he landed four other springers and lost one, and I observed there were only two instances where he did not hook the fish in the first attempt. I still adhere to the single hook in fishing the colley, but I am convinced that many fish I have lost this season would have been hooked firmly had the triplet been employed.

CLUB REPORTS.

ANGLERS' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

Since my last report I beg to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of 5s. donation from Mr. Crouch (treasurer of the Hearts of Oak Angling Society), and 11s. from the Donation Box of the Queen's Angling Society. In answer to your foot-note in last week's number in respect to promised prizes for the Angling Tournament, I beg to refer you to your issue of April 19th.—R. GUERNY.

BATTERSEA FRIENDLY ANGLING SOCIETY.

The seventh annual supper of this society took place on the 29th ult., at the Queen's Hotel Battersea. The chair was taken by Mr. H. W. Payne, and the vice by Mr. W. Stockman. An excellent supper was provided by the worthy host (Mr. G. Edwards) and done ample justice to by those present. After the supper and the usual toasts, that of their parson, Sir Trevor Lawrence, Bart., M.P., was enthusiastically received, as was that of the other prize donors. At the distribution of prizes which followed the names of the most prominent ones were:—Mr. H. Payne, G. Edwards, G. Mumford, H. Martin, H. Ford, E. Sampson, W. Edwards, C. Hedges, and W. Stockman. Amongst the prizes which Mr. Mumford takes is one presented by Mr. Burgess, a magnificent etching of the Weald of Kent exhibited by him at the Vienna Exhibition, as well as at other places. At the concert which followed, Mr. J. Dodds presiding at the piano, there was a capital selection of songs by the members and friends. The following are a few of them:—Mr. W. Johnson, who was in rare form, "She Wore a Wreath of Roses"; Mr. H. Ford, "The Powder Monkey"; Mr. Burnett, gave a capital song called "The Farmer"; Messrs Booth and Dacre, Mr. E. Heighton, with "The Little Pigs"; Mr. Lovegrove, "Frenchman"; Mr. Gray, "Far-away"; Mr. Blackburn, "Jeremiah"; Mr. Lagden, "Three Jolly Smiles"; Cleghorn, "On the Banks of the Severn"; Mr. Johnson in encore was very amusing in "Barney's Hat"; Mr. J. Dodds, Mr. Woodham, Mr. Pilgrim, Mr. C. Hedges.—A. SAMPSON, hon. sec.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

BIRKENHEAD ANGLERS' ASSOCIATION.

This association held its first re-union on Wednesday last, the 30th of April, at the Old Post Office Hotel, when about thirty gentlemen sat down to a hot-pot supper, prepared in excellent style by Mr. Higginson, and which was done full justice to. After the tables were cleared, a long and enjoyable evening was spent. The order of proceedings comprised the usual loyal toast of "The Queen and Royal Family," which was proposed in a neat speech by the president, and most cordially received by all present rising and singing "God save the Queen." Mr. John Fairs next favoured the company with "Tom Bowling," the masterly delivery of which evoked great applause. The next toast was that of "The Association," which was proposed by Mr. W. H. Hughes, in whom was found an able exponent of the advantages to be derived in the pursuit of the "gentle art," and especially having reference to those offered by the association. A guest, Mr. Benson, of Nottingham, in response to a call obliged with "The friends of my youth," and as a penalty for his able rendering was pressed for an encore. The third toast, "The President, Vice-President, and Chairman of Committee," was proposed by Mr. Brady in a brief and neat speech, which the company supplemented by singing "For they are jolly good fellows." Two songs were then given by Mr. Ashton, after which the three gentlemen responded. The next toast, that of "The Hon. Secretary," was proposed by Mr. J. H. Rogers, who, in the most flattering terms, bore record of the able manner in which the business of the association had been performed, and congratulated them upon having the services of one who so cheerfully and assiduously applied himself to the duties of the office. The rapturous applause with which the toast was received must have been very agreeable to Mr. Edwards, and have more than compensated him for any services he might render. After the cheering had subsided, the hon. secretary returned thanks for the very marked manner in which they had received the toast, and availed himself of the opportunity of paying a compliment to the treasurer, who outside the duties connected with £ s. d., has offered him every assistance possible. Two more songs were sung, and then the toast of "The Treasurer and Auditors" was proposed by Mr. Turpin in a very terse and flattering manner, and which was responded to by the treasurer and Mr. W. H. Hughes, who respectively

assured the company that whatever services they might be called upon to render would be done to the best of their ability, and be, indeed, a pleasure. The last toast, "The Donors of Prizes for the ensuing Season," was rather a surprise to all but the proposer (Mr. Edwards), who, in submitting it, regretted that he was not in a position to couple any names therewith. The bait took, and prizes were then offered for competition by Messrs. O. Jones, Turpin, Rogers, Brady, Fairs, Robinson, Hughes, and Durie, to the value of £5. Occasion was taken to pay Mr. and Mrs. Higginson a compliment upon the manner in which the creature comforts of the company had been catered for. Mr. Cooper, who presided at the piano, more than deserved the encomiums which were paid him for his masterly accompaniments to the many songs which, during the evening, were sung by Messrs. Benson, Ellis, Edwards, Fairs, Jones, Turpin, and Ashton. The company parted at the witching hour of twelve.

CAMBRIDGE FRIENDLY ANGLING SOCIETY.

The sixth annual dinner of the above society took place at the club house "The Rent Day," Cambridge Street, Hyde Park, and was in every way a great success. There was an excellent attendance of about sixty members and friends, and the dinner provided by our worthy host and hostess (Mr. and Mrs. Unwin) was in every way perfect. Mr. Schlater presided, faced by Mr. Dobell, in the vice. Among the visitors present were Messrs. Geen, Beckett, and Tibbatts (president, vice-president, and secretary of the West Central Association), also Mr. Murphy, secretary of the Good Intent Anglers. After the usual loyal toasts, the chairman proceeded to distribute the prizes, the winners of which were Messrs. Warsop, Jeffries, Townsend, Welch, Gower, Colson, Edwards, Cornell, Sutcliffe, Hart, &c. The toast, "Success to the prize winners," was suitably responded to by Messrs. Warsop and Jeffries. The next toast given was success to the "Cambridge Friendly Angling Society," which Mr. Townsend in a few chosen words responded to. The chairman next gave success to the "West Central Association of London Anglers," coupling with the toast the name of Mr. Geen, who gave one of his excellent speeches. The toast "Health and prosperity to the host and hostess," was drunk with musical honours, which Mr. Unwin in a very able way responded to. The toast of "The Visitors," was responded to by Messrs. Murphy and Tibbatts. During the evening a telegram was received from Mr. Bonvoisin, stating his inability to be present, which was greatly regretted. The proceedings were enlivened by some excellent songs, &c. Among them may be noted the following:—Mr. T. Laurie, "Salvation Army," and "Toad in the Hole"; Mr. Hart, jun., "Hurrah for the Ribbon of Yellow," and "Why Should London Wait"; Mr. Unwin, jun., "Sally in our Alley"; Mr. A. Warsop, "Song of Songs"; Mr. Gower, comic recitation, "When First I Went to Sea"; Mr. Unwin, "Same old Hat," encored and "Keep in the middle of the road"; Mr. Starr, "The broken down Tenor"; Mr. H. Welch, "Balaklava"; Mr. Sutton, "The Friar of Orders Grey," &c. At the conclusion of the songs, a vote of thanks was passed to the chairman and vice-chair for presiding, also to Mr. Unwin, jun., for his kindness in presiding at the piano. The company separated soon after 1 o'clock a.m., evidently having thoroughly enjoyed themselves.—W. S.

GLASGOW WANDERERS' ANGLING CLUB.

The above club held their first stream competition of the season on Tuesday, 6th inst., on the upper reaches of the Clyde. There were seventeen competitors, and the total number of trout weighed in was two hundred and twenty four; they were all caught with artificial fly, and no fish under six inches was allowed to weigh. The following is a list of the prize takers:—1st, Thomas Anderson, 7 lb. 3 oz.; 2nd, James Gordon, 6 lb. 14½ oz.; 3rd, William Miller, 6 lb. 5½ oz.; 4th, Thomas Miller, 4 lb. 11½ oz.; 5th, David Cameron, 3 lb. 13 oz.; 6th, James Murdoch, 3 lb. 11 oz.—DAVID CAMERON, sec.

GOLDEN BARBEL.

At the quarterly meeting of the members of the above society held on the 6th, Mr. T. Bigsby in the chair, Messrs. J. Green and Lawford's revision of the rules was unanimously accepted. Mr. G. Dodd requested to be allowed to remove his fish, on stating his case, the request was at once granted. Our old friend T. Adams had a rough time of it a short time ago whilst wandering round his favourite water, "The Welsh Harp." He informed me that he was walking round "The Hyde" gathering dandelions and a few wild flowers; he came across two dogs and two gentlemen, one of whom was fishing. He was told by them to go away or else they would set the dogs on to him. "I do not fear the dogs, or their master; I reckon I have as much right on this ground as you have to fish that water," I answered. I turned round to go away, when one of the 'gentlemen' armed with rings on his fingers, like knuckle-dusters, struck me several blows, one between the eyes, one on the nose, and one on the ear, thereby cutting my ear, smashing my nose, and blacking both my eyes." T. Adams is not a young man, and I should have thought his grey hairs would have been a protection to him. He has been a subscriber to the water for a great number of years, and is well-known to nearly all the subscribers. If his assailants had been the landowner and his servant, as they wished him to believe, that would not have justified them committing such an outrage on an old man, and I cannot but call them a pair of ruffianly scoundrels, whoever they may be. I wish to call the attention of all subscribers to the outrage, and the risk they run if such things are allowed to continue. T. Adams is only a working man, and his principal amusement is fishing this water, and collecting during the fence months a few wild flowers one day during the week, mostly on a Sunday. I think that for such simple amusement it is rather hard that he should be punished in such a manner and his assailants go "scot free." If any of "my boys" come across them they promise to pay back the debt in the same coin and with interest, if only to oblige—FIXIE.

GRESHAM ANGLING SOCIETY.

The ordinary weekly meeting of this society was held at the Masons' Hall Tavern, Masons' Avenue, Basinghall Street, on Tuesday evening; Captain Alfred in the chair. The minutes of the last meeting were read by the Secretary, and having been approved as correct, were signed by the chairman. A number of letters were read and a quantity of routine business disposed of. Among the former was a letter from Mr. W. Oldham Chambers, on behalf of the National Fish Culture Association, requesting to be informed of the value of the three cases which the society has lent for exhibition in the Health Exhibition. The subscription list for the widow and children of the late Mr. Morgan, chairman of the East Central Association, was again brought before the meeting, and an addition made thereto; it will be again brought under the notice of members on Tuesday next, when a large attendance is expected, it is hoped that a good sum will be raised for so deserving a case. The prize list also engaged the attention of the committee, and as now arranged, a few proofs will be ready by Tuesday evening next, when it will be finally settled.

In the mean time the secretary will be glad to receive any additions to it. The business of next Tuesday evening will be followed by a smoking concert. A vote of thanks to the chairman, Captain Alfred, brought the proceedings to a close. H.

HAMMERSMITH UNITED ANGLING SOCIETY.

On Thursday next, May 15th, the district visit to this society will take place. Any clubs which have not yet received a notice from our secretary will please accept this as an invitation. We shall be most happy to see as many members here as can attend, and can promise them a pleasant evening. On Thursday, May 22nd, our annual dinner will take place; tickets can be obtained of the secretary, and a hearty welcome will await all visitors.—H.

INDEPENDENT BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

The first annual supper of the above society will take place on Tuesday, May 20th, at the club house, Mr. Waldo's, Bird-in-Hand, Long Acre, W.C., when we shall be happy to have the company of as many friends as can make it convenient to attend.—H. MOORE, sec.

LONDON AND SOUTH-WESTERN ANGLING SOCIETY.

The second annual supper took place at the Crown and Thistle, South Lambeth Road, of the above small and prosperous club on Thursday, 1st inst. Host Hudson provided a good, plain supper, to which full justice was done. After the cloth was cleared the usual loyal toasts were given. The healths of the "Donors and Patrons" were drunk with enthusiasm, and ably responded to by Mr. H. Russell in a most courteous manner. Several good songs were sung during the evening by Messrs. Greener, Parsons, Stevens, Rumbelow, McCullagh, Chadwick, Laws, Russell, Russell, jun., and Woodcock, ably accompanied by Mr. R. Snow at the pianoforte. The healths of the "Vice Presidents" were drunk upstanding. The healths of the "Honorary Members" were drunk and responded to by Mr. Cuthill. The healths of "The Visitors," responded to by Mr. Quirk. The chair was very ably occupied by Mr. Rumbelow, vice Mr. W. Greener. Prizes were promised for next year's competitions to the value of £1 16s. 6d. The prizes were presented to the successful members, Mr. R. Fortescue, Mr. W. Greener, Mr. W. Walter, Mr. C. George, Mr. C. Laws. A very pleasant evening terminated at 12 p.m. with "Auld Lang Syne," and a vote of thanks to chairman and vice-chairman.

Any gentleman in the neighbourhood desirous of joining this rising club should apply to J. Woodcock, secretary, Brunswick House Club and Institute, on Friday evenings, between 6 and 8 p.m.

PHENIX ANGLING SOCIETY.

The annual dinner of the above society will be held on Tuesday evening, May 13, at 8 o'clock, on which occasion, after the cloth has been cleared, we shall be pleased to see any members of other societies who will honour us with a call.—W. ELBORN, sec.

PUTNEY UNITED ANGLERS.

On Tuesday last, at the Jolly Gardeners, Coopers' Arms Lane, the Putney United Anglers held their first annual supper. They were supported by a number of the Clapham Anglers and many friends. After an excellent supper, served by the worthy host (Mr. Ansell), the rest of the evening was devoted to harmony. One of the most pleasing features of the evening was the presentation of a very handsome gold pin, subscribed for by the members of the club, and presented to their hon. sec., Mr. J. Connelly. The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the host and chairman, accompanied by musical honours.

RODNEY PISCATORIALS.

We have just received a grand addition to our collection of piscatorial trophies in the shape of some two dozen cases of specimen fish, consisting of pike, weighing from 16 to 28 lb.; roach, going from 2 lb. upwards; bream, 4 and 5 lb.; perch, trout, grayling, and several other kinds of fish. We shall be pleased to see any brother anglers and their friends on Sunday or Wednesday evenings. Members are requested to attend on Wednesday next, for important business as to prizes for the coming season. I beg to return sincere thanks on behalf of the members to Mr. G. Hockley and Mr. W. C. Canton for the tankards they have offered for competition among the members of this society.—PIKIE.

ROYAL GEORGE ANGLING SOCIETY.

The smoking concert that I announced in the FISHING GAZETTE last week took place and proved a great success. The proceedings opened with an overture by Mr. Hallam, who was followed by Mr. Bailey with a funny song, entitled "The York Militiaman"; then Mr. Holden gave "Pretty Nell"; Mr. Harris, who has a very quaint and amusing style, sang "Is it likely"; Mr. Hallam, who kindly presided at the piano the whole evening, gave "Sailing" in a very able manner, after which came Mr. Viney (visitor) with a funny comic song; Mr. Robinson came to the fore as "The Baron of Battersea Park," and I must confess he looked it; Mr. Marsh, who up to now had kept it a profound secret that he was the possessor of a fine tenor voice, sang, in a very masterly manner, "The Bay of Biscay," and was loudly encored; the Vice, Mr. Palmer, sang "The Gipsy's Tent," to the delight of everyone present; the Chairman, Mr. Ridler, sang a comic song, which seemed to please, judging from the vigorous manner in which the chorus was taken up; Mr. Millard, sec., recited "The Execution" (Ingoldsby) effectively, followed by "Tom Bowling" from Mr. Healy; then Mr. Hallam sang his encore song, "The Powder Monkey"; Mr. Sinclair, "Tinkle, tinkle, tum," after which we were informed by the host that time was up, and that we had better bid "Good night to Apollo." We did, after "Auld lang syne," in which every member's voice could be heard distinctly, including that of—W. H. RYDER.

SOUTH-EASTERN ANGLING SOCIETY.

I have much pleasure to announce that on this night we had a good attendance of members, and got through a lot of business, the most important being the revision of the rules, which there seems to be a determination on the part of the committee and members generally to make perfect, so that there should be no cause of complaint, the sizes of fish and weights of same being above the average of clubs. We are increasing in numbers, even after weeding out our superfluous portion, of which there exists a few as a rule in most clubs. I have also pleasure in stating our annual dinner takes place on the 15 inst. at the George, George Street, Blackfriars Road—Host Frith's. Any gentleman desirous of attending should apply early, as the number of tickets are limited, and only a few remain for disposal. Tickets must be returned or paid for by the 13th inst.—T. H. WESTON, sec., South Eastern Angling Society.

SOUTH LONDON UNITED.

The South London United Visiting List held an adjourned general meeting at the Alscot Arms, Alscot Road, Bermondsey, on Monday last, April 28th. The following societies were represented, and paid down their subscriptions, which is 2s. per club per annum:—The South London, United Brothers, Deptford, Crown Angling Society, Deptford, Anglers' Pride, Second Surrey, Bermondsey Brothers, Rodney Piscatorials, Marlboro' Brothers, Anchor and Hope. Several societies unable to be present sent notice to say they wished to be put on the list, the Battersea Friendly and the Grange Angling Society among others. This will bring our list up to fifteen societies, so we bid fair to do this year as we have done in the two previous years of our existence—that is, double our numbers each year. G. H. Field, Esq., of the South London, was re-elected president for the ensuing year, Mr. Wm. Allen hon. sec. A vote of thanks were passed to officers and committee for past services. A resolution empowering each club to send one delegate to form an executive committee was passed, also that the first match of the season should be fished at Staines, on the Egham side. All societies wishing to be on the list, or who wish to make any change in address, should send on to me at once.—WM. ALLEN, hon. sec.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—Ed.]

THE PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

The usual weekly meeting of this society took place at Ashley's Hotel, Covent Garden, on Monday evening last. Amongst those present were:—Messrs. Booker, Gray, Meyer, Pattison, Gillatt, Foreman, Harden, H. B. Brown, Fennings, Goodger, Bennett, Hill, Adington, Lemann, T. Huggett, J. Lander (hon. sec.), &c., &c. Mr. Lemann was unanimously voted to the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. A letter from Mr. Wheatstone was read (by the hon. sec.), thanking the society for the vote of sympathy conveyed to him during his enforced absence from the rivers through his serious accident, and expressing a strong desire to be after those splendid trout which he hears of at Maple Durham and other places on the Thames. Messrs. H. B. Brown, Gray, and Harden have been fishing at Hertford. These three gentlemen most humorously described their outing. They caught five sizeable trout, but the weather was too violent and strong to get really good sport. Mr. Harden paid a subsequent visit to the same water, but was disgusted on account of some of the upper proprietors weed cutting, which entirely destroyed all chance of sport. He therefore returned to town. What a pity it seems there is no set time for this horrible weed cutting. Gentlemen often go many miles to fish a water, and just as they are about to commence, down come the weeds, and all their time and travelling expenses are confiscated. Mr. Lemann gave his experiences of fishing in the river Wandle; also producing some flies for examination, which were much admired. He has a pet called the "bread-and-butter fly," which he knows to be very killing in these waters. Our hon. member, Mr. Wheelton, accompanied him. Mr. Lemann has also been fishing the Thames at Cheveden. He caught two small Thames trout, which were duly returned. It was announced that Mr. Norman Harrison was absent, the occasion being the birth of a son, whose health was drank with full piscatorial honours. The toast of "The Piscatorial Society," and "The Health of the Chairman" having been duly proposed and responded to, the meeting terminated. T. H.

[Would Mr. Lemann oblige us with a sample of the "Bread and-But-ter" fly?—Ed.]

UNITED BROTHERS, DEPTFORD.

The second annual dinner of the above society took place on Thursday, May 1st, at their headquarters, Host Wood's "Druid's Head" Tavern, Broadway, Deptford. Twenty-eight members and friends sat down to enjoy the niceties provided for them, Mr. Cameron in the chair, Doctor Watts, vice, and Mr. Gaston, pianist. The cloth being uncovered, the toast of the evening "Success to the United Brothers Angling Society" was given, which nearly brought down the house. Then followed the toast for the Crown Brothers, which was ably responded to by Mr. R. Beddington, secretary. The next was for the Visitors, and last, but not least, "Health, Wealth, and Prosperity to our Host and Hostess, Mr. and Mrs. Wood." The ball was kept rolling till morning, when all had to part, after a most enjoyable evening had been spent, singing "He is a jolly good fellow," and "Auld Lang Syne." The following gentlemen contributed to the harmony of the evening:—Messrs. F. Watts, Beddington, Biddell, Climpson, Crown Brothers, Grant, Rodney, W. Tyler, E. Curran, H. Tyler, J. Jones, Robbins, Richards, Oakley, Fisher, Stevens, Goddard, Phillips, &c.—W. T.

UNITED LONDON FISHERIES SOCIETY.

The annual general meeting of the full committee will take place on Monday evening next, May 12th, 1884, at 9 o'clock. Members will oblige by their attendance.—J. C. MURRAY, chairman.

There is a quantity of healthy perch spawn in our hatching boxes at the Red Lion, St. Margaret's, and at the King's Arms, Waltham Abbey.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

[So there is in our Lund box at Croydon.—Ed.]

WELLINGTON ANGLING SOCIETY.

This society held its anniversary meeting and second smoking concert at their club house on Wednesday evening, with a good attendance of members and friends; Mr. Hills in the chair, Mr. White, vice-chairman. The chairman congratulated the society on its progress and prosperity, and in an eloquent speech referred to the difficulties encountered by the society in its infancy, and the manner in which they had been successfully surmounted. The society has in the course of twelve months attained a substantial position, and will enter upon the ensuing season with every prospect of continued success. The specimen fish taken by the members, and which are now exhibited in the club room, are a credit to a society which has been established so short a time, and as we have so many donors of prizes, there is little doubt that in the ensuing season we shall very much add to their number. In the course of the evening a handsome cup was presented by Mr. Charles Wright to Mr. W. A. White, as a prize for the largest jack taken in the late season. Had it been a prize offered by anyone else, Mr. Wright would have taken it himself with the fine specimen which ornaments the walls of our club room, weighing 21 lb. The secretary called the attention of the members to a notice received from the Anglers' Benevolent Society, and in response to a few words from him, a dozen names were immediately given in to enrol themselves as members of that useful and provident society. Mr. E. Coad was then elected a member of the Wellington, and after some good songs had been sung, the company dispersed very well satisfied with an agreeable and social evening.—W. W. ALEXANDER, sec.

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improved principle. Salmon, 6s. 6d.; Trout, 5s.; smaller do, 3s. 6d.
SILVER OR GILT.

Also Coloured, similar to the Devon Baits, &c.

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PRICE 21s.,

The enormous and increasing demand for which is a sufficient guarantee for the high
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2s. 6d.

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EXCHANGE.

Things Wanted—to BUY, to SELL, or to EXCHANGE

N.B.—We take no responsibility whatever in connection with advertisements inserted
in this or other parts of this paper; but beg our readers to expose any case of im-
position. The prices for inserting advertisements in this "EXCHANGE"
Column are 6d. per line for one, or 4d. per line for more than one insertion.
Address Manager, FISHING GAZETTE, 12 and 13, Fetter Lane, London, and send
stamps with the order, or the advertisement cannot be inserted.WANTED.—Particulars and prices of Secondhand Books on Angling and Fish Culture.
Must be in good condition.—Address Editor, FISHING GAZETTE, 12 and 13, Fetter Lane,
London, E.C.Splendid Trout Flies, 8d. per dozen. See Editor's Notice, March 22nd, '84.—J. Palmer,
Littleworth, Redditch.WANTED.—Three soft Bamboo Roach Rods, light and good, describe fully; also 250
small Bream for stocking, from Gloucestershire preferred.—William Murch, Street, S. O.,
Bridgwater.CAPTURE OF A FINE OTTER.—Mr. Chas. W. Smith, builder, of Chalford,
Gloucestershire, has captured at that town a fine female otter. The animal was
first seen by him about four o'clock in the morning, and after an hour's chase
was driven into a drain, where after considerable trouble, it was ultimately se-
cured about five o'clock in the evening. The otter weighs 16lb., and measures
from the end of its nose to the tip of its tail 3 feet 6 inches.

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RIVER REPORTS.

TIME OF HIGH WATER IN THE THAMES.

To find the time of high water in the Thames at any of the following places,
to the time of high water at London Bridge (given below).

	30 minutes for Chelsea.
40	" Putney.
45	" Hammersmith.
50	" Barnes.
55	" Kew.
75	" Richmond.
80	" Twickenham.
85	" Teddington.

Example:—If it is high water at 2 o'clock at London Bridge, it will be high
water at Teddington about 3.25, or eighty-five minutes later; but it must be
remembered that a strong wind accelerates or retards the tide very much.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.

				Morning.		Afternoon.
For Saturday,	May	10	..	2.2	..	2.18
Sunday,	"	11	..	2.35	..	2.51
Monday,	"	12	..	3.8	..	3.23
Tuesday,	"	13	..	3.41	..	3.58
Wednesday,	"	14	..	4.15	..	4.31
Thursday,	"	15	..	4.49	..	5.5
Friday,	"	16	..	5.24	..	5.45

THE LOWER THAMES.

In writing from Kings' on, John Johnson, sen., says:—"I have only had the
rod in hand two hours since I last wrote. My son has been out two or three
evenings. The wind has been so bad no one would face it. As soon as it goes
down in the evening you see the fish, but not when it blows hard, for then you
can scarcely see the break in the water. I saw three fish last night at 7.20 all
feed at once, in less than one hundred yards, and all large fish." There is no
doubt as to the reach at Kingston being full of trout, but up to the present
they have proved themselves to be too many for the anglers, either in breaking
away or in stripping the bait from the hook, whilst others disdain to accept the
proffered bait. The only fish that have been reported up to Wednesday have
been two more, taken by George Rosewell, at Shepperton, one of 4½ lb. and
the other 10 lb. The Thames Angling Preservation Society is doing its best
to protect the spawn of the roach and jack, under the personal superintendence
of Mr. Thomas Spreckley, and the means adopted for each of those fish will,
without doubt, prove of a successful character. An example has been made
by one of the Thames fishermen in sending a subscription of half a guinea to
the Thames Angling Preservation Society in appreciation of the good it is
doing both for fishermen and anglers. As regards the trout in the Thames, it
has been remarked by one well able to judge, "They are as thick as they can
stick," but more genial weather is required before evidencing practical results.
The trout of 10 lb. taken at Hampton Court, as reported in last week's FISHING
GAZETTE, was an accidental capture. The angler, walking on the banks, noticed
the fish feeding, and then went for his fishing tackle; and, although trout are not
always to be caught when on the feed, he was not long in securing so good a
prize.

UPPER THAMES.

Datchet.

The water is in good trim for trout-fishing, but the wind has been rather too
rough and cold for many to venture out. Those who did have been rewarded.
W. Pritchard, Esq., on the 30th ult., a fish 5 lb. On the 4th inst., two members
of the Friendly Anglers, Mr. Barwell, with R. Gray, at Clewer Point, a
handsome fish, 6 lb. 11 oz.; Mr. Woodall, with James Gray, at Athens,
another beauty, 6 lb.; myself, on the 6th inst., a fish 7 lb. The above must
be proofs of the existence of a good supply of trout. I know where there are
a dozen or two of good fish.—G. LUMSDEN.

Ancholme District.

The wind is now in the south-west, and it is quite warm and pleasant, but
the recent rains have hardly moved the waters, which remain very clear and
low. A gentleman caught twelve fish the other day in one of the local docks
—eight Fontinalis and four trout—the two largest 1½ lb. each. I had an afternoon
yesterday (6th), but, owing to thunder and sheep washing did not get a single fish.
The Hawthorn fly has put in an appearance to-day in goodly numbers. I
hope to pay my deferred visit to the Bain next week, and am anticipating
good things.—THOMAS FORD, Caistor.

Ballynahinch.

Since last report weather and waters have improved considerably, and on
Thursday we had a heavy fall of rain for six hours, which will allow grise to
run. There have been only two fish taken this last week, one by Mr. Lawson,
12 lb., and by "Steel," 10½ lb. Prospects are good for the coming week.—
WALTER BLACKADDER.

Coquet (Weldon Bridge).

The weather is anything but favourable for the angler, the wind blowing from the west, accompanied with showers of rain. On the 1st the Rev. Mr. Oliver creel'd 5 lb. of trout; on the 3rd, Mr. R. Barker, 4 lb.; Mr. G. Laing, 3 brace.—A. GLASS.

[We are sorry to learn from Mr. Glass that he is leaving the Anglers' Inn.—ED.]

Dee (Aberdeenshire).

Since last week there has been no apparent increase in the number of grilse on the coast. Though one or two have been trying up the river, there are yet very few along the bays. A small increase in the volume of the river took place on Tuesday, and netting was fairly productive. A good many fish, however, managed to escape the nets. At Inchgarth, in the end of the week, one grilse was netted, and on Tuesday another was got at the Raik and Mid Chingle Shot. Both were comparatively small. The net fishermen inform us that a good many fine sea trout have ascended within the past eight or ten days. Sport amongst them ought soon to be commencing in the Banchory District. If the river rise much we expect to hear of some good takes at the Bridge of Feugh in a short time. Although last week saw tremendous swarms of kelts leave the river, there yet linger far too many of their kind in the reaches forty to fifty miles up the country. Most of these are diseased—splashed and spotted—and, therefore, easily observed as they lie near the edges of the pools and in the quiet behind stones. When practicable, they ought to be removed, if fresh rain does not soon precipitate their downward course. All preventable means ought to be taken to keep the disease from manifesting itself amongst the clean fish. If it break out in the crowded upland pools, the destruction will be great. Many small fish still in the river ought to have been taken long ago, and but for the extensive use of the "Yorkshire Grey" in the month of March would undoubtedly have been so. It is a great mistake for gentlemen to use the natural minnow, especially in the early season, as, in addition to spoiling other people's sport, it afterwards tells on their own. The fact is, more fish would be killed were the minnow entirely dispensed with until the middle of May at least—the time the fish begin to get "potted." Many of the fish on the upper reaches are now very brown, but not so much so as they would have been had the weather been warmer of late. Salmon are still in good condition on the whole, and giving the angler capital play. The range of flies now taking them are somewhat circumscribed, three or four doing the greater part of the execution; these are the Logie, Jeannie, Pitfour, and Gordon, the latter for evening fishing. Mr. Smith, of Ballater, has kindly shown us the specimens—beautiful and taking-looking specimens they are—sizes Nos. 3, 4, and 5, brazed double irons, with these 4 flies, regulated in size to the time when used and the nature of the water fished, the various shades of light and colours of stream are well provided for. With the fish that are getting past the nets, we think the fishing on the lower and middle "catches" ought to improve by next week. At the worst, it cannot fall off. We have not heard of anything being done on the Huntley Arms Hotel Water at Aboyne. We expected a good report, but nothing has come to hand. Woodend, Cairnton, and Blackhall were not fished, the lessees having left for the season. Kincardine O'Neil is nil, and Banchory, Park, and Durris approaching the same condition. On the Gleanar Water—Wm. Cunliffe Brooks, Esq., M.P., on Monday, 4 salmon, 6 to 12 lb., were landed; Tuesday, 10 salmon, 7 to 16 lb.; Wednesday, 3 salmon, 8 to 17 lb.; Thursday, 2 salmon, 7 and 10 lb.; Friday, 3 salmon, 7, 9, and 11 lb.; Saturday, 6 salmon 7 to 16 lb. On the Cambus O'May Water H. T. Broadhurst, Esq., and party have had splendid sport with the fly—Monday, 2 salmon, 7 to 15 lb.; Tuesday, 3 salmon, 9 to 23 lb.; Wednesday, 5 salmon, 7 to 14 lb.; Thursday, 4 salmon, 8 to 12 lb.; Friday, 6 salmon, 7 to 13 lb.; Saturday, 8 salmon, 6 to 15 lb. Bailater District.—Report of Mr. George Smith, saddler and tackle maker:—Monaltie Water.—Frederic Picop, Esq., Tuesday, 1 fish, 7 lb.; Thursday, 1 fish, 7½ lb.; Friday, 1 fish, 9½ lb.; Dr. Ogilvie, Tuesday, 2 fish, 7 and 8 lb.; Wednesday, 3 fish, 7, 8, and 9½ lb.; Saturday, 4 fish, 7, 7½, 8, and 9 lb. Invercauld Arms Hotel Water.—Monday, J. Donaldson, Esq., 4 fish, 9½, 10, 10, and 10 lb.; Col. Chambers, Wednesday, 1 fish, 8 lb.; Friday, W. Coupland, Esq., 1 fish, 11 lb.; Saturday, 4 fish, 7, 9, 10, and 11 lb.; Monday (this week), Captain Smith, 2 fish, 8 and 11 lb.; W. Coupland, Esq., 5 fish, 8, 8, 9, 10, and 12 lb. Morven Lodge Water.—Saturday, J. B. Kei h, Esq., 1 fish, 7 lb.; W. Murdoch, Esq., 1 fish, 8 lb. Morven Water.—Tuesday, J. McHardie, keeper, 2 fish, 7 and 9 lb. Banchory and Park District.—Inverly. General Oliphant's Water.—Tuesday, Mr. Robert Brands, 1 fish, 9 lb. Kineskie Water.—Monday, Mr. William Dawson, 1 fish, 14 lb. Inchmarlo.—Mr. C. Gill, 1 fish, 18 lb. Park Section: Monday, Mr. Gemmell, 1 fish, 11 lb.; Tuesday, 1 fish, 14 lb. Durris Home Water.—Dr. McDonald and party having first-class sport. All over the peaks of the Grampians and the higher Deeside hills snow lies to a very considerable depth. Within a day or two past a good deal has fallen, and the frost during the night has been intense. In the absence, therefore, of a very sudden thaw, the river, as a natural consequence, is likely to keep in splendid angling volume during the greater part of the summer. It is estimated that at present on several of the higher hills the snow averages a depth of 6 to 8 feet. A gradual thaw means good salmon, grilse, and sea trout summer fishing. Trout fishing on the Don still continuing fairly good.—W. M.

Eden (Armthwaite).

For a fortnight all sport was suspended, the river being so low; but since Monday it has been in first rate order, and heavy baskets of trout have been got. Mr. Crowther took 18 lb. on Wednesday; Rev. E. Bowman, two dozen; and other gentlemen were equally successful. On Thursday four were out; the salmon came up in numbers. On Monday, George Ferguson and Bird took nice, heavy baskets with the net.—SKIDDAW.

Exe and Barle (Dulverton).

The rivers have been in flood, but are now in good order again for fishing. The corn crake, Alder bud, and red upright are the killing flies. Good baskets ought now to be made, but rods are plentiful on these waters.—C. W. WELDER.

Exe (Tiverton).

The water continues very low. The rain of Saturday and Sunday made scarcely any perceptible difference to the stream, the land being so very dry. Monday was a tolerably good day. One gentleman, among others, caught a good basket 38 in number, and many of them large fish. Since then little has been done, neither will there be until we have rain enough to move the water.—WM. MUDFORD.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

The river is now in good condition for fishing, and fair baskets are being made with red upright, olive dun, and willow bud. Several salmon have been

caught. One gentleman yesterday landed five weighing 56 lb. I have heard of none caught above Tiverton.—WM. MUDFORD.

Ilfracombe.

This week a gentleman, while fishing with rod and line the streams along the Torrs bottom, caught several fine trout, some as large as a good sized herring. Sea fishing very slack, owing to the strong wind and heavy ground sea; but those fishing with rod and hand lines from the pier head, the jetty, and the flat rock off Capstone, have had some good catches of codlin, whiting pout, and pollack. On Wednesday a boat put in here having on board a quantity of mackerel, which they caught to the westward of Lundy. Weather very unsettled.—E. COMBER.

Lakes of Killarney.

Number of fish taken since the last report:—The Caharnane net, 47 salmon for the week; Glenna net, 10 salmon; Muckross about the same. On 23rd of April, James Hayes, 1 salmon, 12 lb.; Mr. B. Bernard, 1, 13 lb.; Thade Marah, 1, 12 lb.; Tim McCarthy, 1, 13 lb. On 24th, Dan Courane, 1, 14 lb.; Pat Clifford, 1, 16 lb.; John Downing, 1, 10 lb. On 25th, James Hayes, 1, 13½ lb.; Pat Robert, 1, 12 lb.; Dan Donoughe, 1, 12 lb.; Captain Blyett, 2 dozen trout; Lieutenant Roberts, 18 trout; S. L. Coltsman and W. R. Sculbey killed the following number of trout:—On 23rd, 60 trout; next day, 65 trout; next day, 68. John Downing got a trout of 11 lb. with a spoon bait. On 28th, Tim McCarthy, 1 salmon, 12 lb.; next day, Dan Hayes, 1, 13 lb.; Pat Clifford, 1, 16 lb.; Mr. John Ross, 2 salmon. May 1st, Captain Blyett, 42 trout; Lieutenant Roberts, 23 trout; Tim McCarthy their fisherman. The taking flies, orange grouse, green and yellow. On 2nd inst, Thade Marah, 2 salmon, 25 lb.; Tim Courane, 2 salmon, 20 lb. Next day, Pat Roberts, 2 salmon, 23 lb.; Tim McCarthy, 2 salmon, 23 lb.; Pat Clifford, 1, 12 lb.; Jerry Robert, 1, 13 lb. On 5th, Captain Blyett, 36 trout; Lieutenant Roberts, 28 trout. The fishing match came off on the 4th inst., Tim McCarthy the winner, the number of trout 36, the largest 1½ lb.; next boat 24 trout, and so on. I have put up the rod for the 11th inst. again to give another chance, hoping to have good sport for it with weather to suit.—TIM MCCARTHY.

Lugg and Arrow.

There is but little alteration in the state of these streams, both keeping splendid fishing order. The wind has changed round since last week, and warm weather has now set in, and it is hoped it will continue so for some time. There have been some very good fish taken in both these streams with the fly the blue dun and March brown being the best killers at present. Fishing in the Arrow on the 2nd inst. was very quiet, as the weather was stormy, and we only heard of one gentleman taking four trout with the cowdung fly. On Saturday last the weather cleared beautiful for fishing. A gentleman tried the Lugg, and landed nine very nice trout, with the fly. A very good dish of fish was taken in the Arrow the same day, with the blue dun. Some capital sport was had on Monday in the Arrow, and a dish of 6 lb. was taken with the fly. In the Lugg on Monday a small lot of trout were taken with the March brown. With the blue dun, on Tuesday, a gentleman landed, in the Arrow, a very good lot of trout, some scaling 10 oz. each. A few nice trout were taken in the Lugg on Wednesday morning with the March brown. A good lot of fish have been taken in the Earsland water this week. Some few trout have been taken in the Ivington district the last few days. The Pinsley is still in good fishing order, and several lots of very fine trout have been taken with the fly.—GWYNNE.

Medway (Tonbridge).

With such glorious weather we shall soon have the bream and roach up spawning, but they have not made their appearance in the side streams for that purpose yet. On Saturday last, Foster, the water bailiff, trapped at the Seabrooks, a vixen otter, weighing 14 lb., and measuring 3 feet 6 inches. This is the third killed in the same place in less than a year. If Earl De La Warr is fond of seeing otters about he should keep them in Sussex, because as sure as they put their heads into Kent they are condemned to death by—YK MEDWAY WATER RAT.

Moy and Lough Conn (Ballina).

We have had for the past few days as much rain as has raised the river eight or ten inches, which has made a fresh lot of fish run from sea, amongst them a good number of grilse, of a small size, as is usual with the first run of those fish. The weather is still very changeable and not good for angling. One day is nice and mild, and if one chances to be on the water, salmon and trout rise well; other days are cold, with showers of hail, and blowing a whole gale; on these days only moderate sport can be got. Should the weather come in nice and warm with a south-west wind, I can safely say that fair sport with salmon and trout can be got on river and lough. The fish killed for the last few days are as follows: Mr. J. G. Clarke killed, in one day, 18 trout and 1 salmon, the salmon weighing 13 lb., and the largest trout over 3 lb., a beautiful specimen of the "Gillaroo"; Mr. F. McGillicarry killed two salmon, weighing 13½ lb. and 10 lb., and 6 trout; Mr. Atkinson, 1 salmon and 5 trout; Mr. F. B. Henn, 2 salmon, weighing 14 lb. and 10 lb., and 4 trout. The above mentioned fish were taken by the anglers in a day's fishing. Free fishing, full particulars of FRANK HEARNS.

Ouse and (Blunham).

The water is in good condition. Fine sport is anticipated with trout fishing which commences May 1st.—J. W.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

Severn (Kidderminster).

Not much news this week as regards fishing. I was out yesterday (Monday) but only ran three fish with minnow; two of them broke away, both good fish. A gentleman fishing with minnow at Lincomb Weir took two good fish, one 5 lb. the other 2½ lb. I have heard of little else being done. In my last I expressed a want of a change in wind and water. We have got it to perfection. But the change has done us no good, for the weather is as cold as Christmas, and the river isn't full with snow water. It will take a lot of more genial weather to open the mouths of the fish again. Some of our anglers are in trouble over the permits that have been issued. It expresses that trout fishing is to commence on the 1st of May. The riverkeeper has been complaining that our members have been taking them earlier, and has written to Mr. Willis Bund. What the result will be I don't know; but this we do know—that the keeper has been taking trout ever since the 11th of April. He has no permit; yet complains that others, who have permits, should take fish (trout). I suppose we shall soon know what the result will be.—E. EARP.

Severn (Shrewsbury).

This river at the present time is exceedingly low, and the water very bright. The wind, however, has at last changed to the south-west, but it is still very cold. Mr. Ellis, on Monday, caught a good trout. With this exception I have not heard of any takes worth mentioning. In a tributary, on Monday, I had a good day's sport, killing eleven good trout, weighing from $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. to $1\frac{1}{4}$ lb., and with one exception they were in splendid condition. The most killing flies I found were the stone fly, yellow bodied, March brown, and Shaw's infallible. On Monday afternoon a very heavy thunderstorm passed over this district. —SEVERN SALMON.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

The rain which fell on Thursday and Friday caused the river to rise some couple or three feet, and as a consequence has put a stop to fly-fishing for a week, although it has receded sufficiently for the minnow, and last night Mr. R. Ellis, sen., landed two very good trout, the largest of which weighed near a pound, and the smaller one about $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. A friend of mine seems to have had some rattling sport with the trout in the upper portion of the Verniew, the last four times he was out having on those occasions taken respectively 12 trout, 12 trout, 10 trout, and 4 trout, these were taken during the time the Granam was at its best. This gentleman tells me that there are several otters about, having tracked them in different parts, and on several occasions picked up trout of $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. to 1 lb., which were partially eaten, and had undoubtedly been killed by these expert fishers. —SEVERN SALMON.

Suir and its Tributaries.

Of salmon we have nothing to say this week; the long-continued east wind, dry weather, and consequent lowness of water rendered it next to impossible to fish with any degree of success. The only fish I have to record is a very nice 14 pounder, which fell to Mr. R. F. Hutchings' rod in Dudley's, the second that has been killed there this year. The trout fishing is now in full swing since the wind changed. One angler in particular had very good sport during three days, more than filling his basket each day. Some of the fish were a pound weight. Yesterday he got nineteen more, which were more than herring size. The river is swarming now with both trout and salmon; all we want is a rattling good flood to make it everything that we require. —DORA.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

Taw and Tributaries (North Devon).

Although we had a rise of water on Friday, the numbers of catches have not increased proportionally. I hear of two catches of 4 dozen, and one or two of 1 and $1\frac{1}{2}$, but the fish are small and appear to decrease in size and quantity. Salmon have again come up the large rivers, and the net men have fairly done well, and no doubt will get a good season. —RUSTY GAME.

Teme (Ludlow).

Anglers have had fine weather this week and the streams all in proper order. There was not much doing the latter end of last week, Ludlow Races being held on Friday and Saturday. Though the weather on those days was anything but agreeable, a gentleman fishing in the Teme up the Oakley Park waters caught eleven fine trout the first day's fishing, and seven the second day, some weighing nearly 1 lb. each, and others over 2 lb. Down below the old paper mills, on Tuesday, some half-dozen fair-sized trout were caught with the March brown. Mr. R. M., of Corve Street, had a day up the Clun, and caught twenty-seven splendid trout and also several grayling; the latter, after the hooks had been carefully extracted, were returned to the river, little the worse from their visit to *terra firma*. We are very glad to be in a position to state that the regulations as regards close time have been more strictly observed this year than in any previous one as far as applies to the Teme and its tributaries around Ludlow. Two or three nice catches of trout have been made up the Corve. We saw some good fish landed from the Onibury waters on Monday, with the cowdung and blue dun, between Bromfield and Wootton Ford. We hear that fishing has commenced in the Leintwardine waters, but there is not anything extensive being done. The Letwyche waters have been disturbed but little. Weather fine, with cold nights. —S. LUDLOW.

Teme (Tenbury).

The weather this week has been beautiful for angling, and the cold wind, with which this district was visited last week, has entirely disappeared, and the sun, which has been shining brightly, has made the fish rise freely at the March brown, cowdung, and blue dun flies. On the 2nd inst. we were visited with some very sharp showers of rain, which did a great deal of good, as it stirred the fish up, and slightly altered the colour of the water, which was as clear as crystal. Saturday being a nice, warm day, a gent visited the water near the bridge with the blue dun, and caught some fine trout, some weighing $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. each. In the streams below Little Hereford Bridge some very good trout were taken with the fly the same day. Fishing some distance below the town on Monday, a gent landed a splendid basket of trout with the March brown and stone fly. On Tuesday some very good sport was had above the Teme Bridge with the blue dun, when a gent landed a dozen very fine trout, all in splendid condition. There have been some very good fish taken in the Association waters with the fly this week. The Rea is in good fishing order, but there have been but few visitors the last few days. The Ledwyche is still rather low, and but little fishing has been had. A few good trout have been taken in the Kyre this week with the fly. —WORCESTER.

Torridge (Torrington).

River in good order for fishing. Lots of trout have been taken with the fly on Thursday. Several salmon were hooked on Wednesday. Colonel Cuyler, from Clifton, took a nice one 14 lb. —PRACTICAL ANGLER.

Trent (Nottingham).

More salmon continue to be killed in the upper reaches of the Trent. The showery weather alluded to in my last report did a considerable amount of good, bringing on in the early part of the week a smart rise, which set the fish busily on the feed. I have been at Weston and Shardlow since Monday, and have watched the sport closely. On the day named, Mr. T. Wood, of Nottingham, the lessee of the Shardlow and Weston lengths, caught three grand fish with the spinner, besides letting one escape that had been hooked by his keeper. Mr. Wheatcroft, of Derby, had one of 21 lb.; Mr. Stanley, of the same town, one of 15 lb.; and Mr. Saxton, one of 13 lb. Mr. I. Jackson, of Shardlow, secured one in the Long Swim of 24 lb. On Tuesday, Mr. J. Heard, Nottingham, caught one with the spinner of 20 lb.; Mr. Meakin, Derby, had one of 19 lb.; Mr. Wilkinson, Derby, one of $18\frac{1}{2}$ lb.; Mr. Wheatcroft, Derby, one of 10 lb.; Mr. H. Coxon, Nottingham, one of 11 lb.; and Mr. Goodhead, Nottingham, one of 17 lb. Several other very good fish were

killed on Wednesday. Trout-fishing in the tributaries of the river has engaged attention since the 1st inst., and, as showing the voracious tendency of the fish, I have only to state that an ordinary-sized fish, killed by my enthusiastic friend, Mr. S. Sills, of this town, was found, on examination, to contain 208 maggots, several water snails, and the remnants of some caddis grubs. —THE MAN AT THE CLUBS.

Tweed and Teviot.

For a fortnight past little has been done in salmon angling on any of the waters, the rivers having run in very small; and unless we have a very full flood soon, the occupation of salmon angling may be said to be over for the spring. The only captures that we have heard of since last week were on the Sprouston water—two salmon got by Mr. Crawhall, Newcastle, one weighing 16 lb. and the other 10 lb. Trout fishing, on the whole, is also very unsatisfactory, the baskets got being very small. The fish, however, are in excellent condition for the time of year, and are taking the fly pretty freely. Tweed Salmon Net Fishing.—The reports from the Berwick Net Fishing Co.'s waters are to the effect that the takes have been better during the week, and prices are—salmon and trout, 1s. 8d. per lb. —MAXWHEEL, Kelso.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

Usk.

Very little has been done this week with angling, sport anything but brisk, in consequence of heavy storms and cold winds, although the river is in good fishing order. Mr. G. C. Brown landed 1 salmon on Thursday, 13 lb.; on the Monday, Mr. Cole 1, $12\frac{1}{2}$ lb., and Mr. Bevington's keeper 1; Tuesday, Major Bligh 1; Wednesday, Rev. A. Williams 1, 14 lb. —J. H. CLARK.

Wharfe (Yorkshire).

Since my last report there has been some very stormy weather in this district, but no great weight of rain; consequently, what fresh water has come down the river has mainly consisted of washings from the roads. The wind still keeps in the east to a great extent, and prevents the trout from rising freely at fly. A few fish have been taken with worm, the best one that has come under my notice being caught with that bait on Tuesday evening near to the paper mills at Pool. My informant told me that it would scale at least $1\frac{1}{2}$ lb. The iron blue dun is the best fly to employ at the present time. —FRANCIS M. WALBRAN.

Wye and Derwent.

Both rivers have been in first-class condition for fly-fishing the whole of the past week, and baskets from seven brace up to twelve brace per angler have been made off of both the Wye and Derwent. The killing flies have been hare's ear dun, claret bumble, and spider flies. The sand fly has accounted for a few fish late in the evening. The fish have been killed chiefly in the ripples of the stream, and close to the sides. I am sorry to say that the fungus disease is very bad again, both on the Wye and Derwent, chiefly amongst grayling. Many hundreds of large fish have already been picked up dead, besides great quantities being affected alive in the river. In fact, I saw thirteen fish, grayling, on the spawning beds, and twelve of them had the fungus disease on them. It's my opinion that three-parts out of the four of the grayling, both in the Wye and Derwent, below Rowsley, are affected with the disease. At the time of writing this (Thursday night), we have had a heavy storm of very cold rain falling for hours, which is sure to disturb both the Wye and Derwent a little. This rain will do a great deal of good, especially if we get enough of it. The ant egg will be in in about a fortnight. It is a capital bait for trout. Both the trollers and bottom fishermen on the Derwent have killed a few fish during the week, but no quantity. Sport on the ponds has been first-class. Bumbles, red, and spider-flies killers. —Geo. JAS EATON.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

There was a great quantity of heavy rain fell the latter end of last week all over Derbyshire, which caused all our Derbyshire rivers to have nice little flushes on them. This rise of water has done a very great deal of good; for it will help to purify both of the above rivers, which have a very great quantity of pollution, both being foul, and also running into both the Wye and Derwent at different places. It's my opinion, and the opinion of one and all of the oldest fishermen in Derbyshire, that the disease which has been raging amongst the grayling and trout lately, both on the Wye and below Rowsley on the Derwent, has been caused by nothing else but the pollutions which are running into the rivers daily at different places. Only smell the water of the Wye about Millers' Dale and higher up towards Buxton in a very dry time. It stinks abominably. Only look at the many hundreds of dead and dying grayling principally that have been picked out of the river with the "fungus disease." I could point out many places where the pollutions are continually running into both the Wye and Derwent. What are the Trent Fisheries Board water bailiffs doing, or their head man, Mr. Eddowes? Surely he ought to look after the pollutions on these rivers, for the Trent Fisheries Board get a lot of money out of Derbyshire for nothing, as neither the fishing clubs on either the Wye or Derwent receive any benefit from the great quantity of licenses that are issued every year. In fact, nearly all the gentlemen who visit these rivers, the higher lengths, say the Trent Fisheries Board Act is nothing less than a great monopoly, as I myself have only seen one Trent Board water bailiff on these rivers ever since the Act was passed—and I am an every-day fisherman the season through, weather and water permitting. Only look at the Ginger Beer Works at Matlock Bath. There was a man wheeling lime and vitriol into the river Derwent the whole of one day this week, and the river was white for more than 100 yards below where the lime, &c., was being thrown in. A great many gentlemen saw this being done, and one of them asked me "Where were the Trent Board water bailiffs?" But the bailiffs go above Darley Bridge, and see the river Derwent, from 9.30 a.m. to 10.30 a.m., and many other places that I could point out. I hear that the Darley Dale Angling Club have turned in a few Loch Leven trout, between Rowsley and Darley Bridge; and that the secretary of the club, Colonel Rawlings, has stopped issuing day tickets for Bottom fishing from Darley Bridge, except to a few of his friends. This new rule has caused a lot of unpleasantness to a great many of the inhabitants, and the different gentlemen that used to come into Derbyshire for a little bottom fishing; both the hotels and boarding houses will suffer much. I may add that there is not a member of the Darley Dale Fishing Club, that Colonel Rawlings belongs to, has got a yard of ground of their own, so it's nothing short of a great monopoly. In fact, the Matlock Bath gentlemen are starting a new club, and no doubt by next season, they will have the whole of the Darley Dale water, and the new club will be carried on far differently from this one. Sport, both on the Wye and Derwent, has been first-class, especially to the trollers and bottom fishermen on the Derwent, and baskets up to twelve brace per angler have been landed. The ant egg maggot,

and Wasp grubs preserving ones, and worms, have been all killing a fair quantity of trout. Sport with the fly has also been very good. Hare's ear dun, bumble, red, and spider, have all killed fish. To-day (Thursday), the weather is very rough and cold, but still trout are rising nicely at the sides. Sport on the ponds, both with the fly and bottom, has been very good, and good big baskets have been the order of the day.—GEORGE JAMES EATON.

Wye (Ross)

Now in good order for fly, and the big trout are not on feed. We regret to say that the number of pinks daily taken is very large; thousands of these fish are destroyed every spring. I have seen them at public diners and hotels in the town, and they are hawked about in the most barefaced way. Cannot something be done to prevent this state of things? It would be much better to abolish the restrictions in pink catching altogether than go on as at present. Will not the Board of Conservators wake up, and put on a proper staff of efficient watchers?—J. C.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

Yare (Norwich).

Roach fishing in this river is still pursued by those who, I believe if they had their wish, would only come on shore to go to bed, and then next morning would be as ready as ever, to sit and hold the rod and watch the gliding float, nervously anxious for the first sign of a nibble, day after day, year out and in, and from what I can learn, some who persevere in this manner are somewhat rewarded. In one instance, I am credibly informed that a gentleman has landed 950 roach during the past month, notwithstanding the opposition of the elements. Sport as a whole has not been good during the past week, but to-day (Thursday) one gentleman at Brown's, Coldham Hall, Brundall, caught 45 nice sized roach. I fancy before long we shall hear of some bream being taken, as visitors from parts in which the close season is observed are now coming to our waters to keep up their practice, and to avail themselves of our preservation of these waters. I trust they will not forget the Yare Society's boxes at the different stations on the river. I do not anticipate sending you any particularly good accounts for a few weeks to come, but shall advise you of any item of interest.—ROBERT MOLL.

Yore (Hawes).

Hawes and Hawes Water are very different places. Hawes is a small market town (it might be called the capital of Wensleydale), on the Yore, in Yorkshire. Hawes Water is a small lake in Westmoreland, about five miles from Shap Station, London and North-Western Railway, and is the centre of a splendid country for angling. I cannot say definitely that the so-called *C. Brama* are really "schelly," or not, but I should say they were. I will give you my reason. Through Hawes Water runs a small tributary of the Eden and the schelly abounds in that river. I have caught them 3 and 4 lb. each. When a lad I have seen "schellies" fuddled, i.e., made beastly drunk. The *modus operandi* was to get a quantity of *doc. indicus* powdered and mixed with brown bread, divide into pieces the size of a pea, and throw a handful or two into any of the deep holes frequented by the schelly and await the result. Before long the fish were cutting the most fantastic figures ever seen; in a short time stupor took place, and the fish only required picking up. I have known stones to be taken out of the large hole at the junction of the Eden in the Pefferill in this manner. Now in Semmer Water, near Hawes, the fish is, without doubt, *C. Brama*, I may safely say there are legions. They are seldom (very) if ever angled for. I have sometimes gone over to fish at Countersett after a rough night, and in walking up the side of the lake I have passed several *C. Brama* washed out among the wreck strewn upon the shore. They have been raked out with hayrakes during the spawning season. There are no schellies in Semmer Water. Rudd are very plentiful, and of fair size (about 1 lb.), and are very seldom indeed angled for. Semmer Water, if provided with three or four punts, would be a bream fisher's paradise. It is almost an impossibility to fish it from the side, as the weeds grow very rank almost the whole of the way round the lake. It is only from a very few places that angling is at all practicable; but when you hit upon the spot, you are well repaid. I may say for your information I have caught the schelly with both fly and worm. I once saw a beauty hooked by a young gentleman angling in Rickerby Holmes for sea trout. He was too much for the tackle and snapped it among the weeds. I guessed him at 6 lb. Like a grayling, the bait needs to be small and well scoured. He will evidently, from what I have above stated, take small pellets of paste; and, indeed, I remember a piscator (a compositor) taking some very good dishes by using white bread paste in Rickerby Beck, in which place I once lost one about 4 lb. whilst angling for eels. They take the bait either upon or very close to the bottom. I should think caddis bait would be very deadly, but I never used it for schellies, or, indeed, anything else, as we never thought them worth angling for. They are very strong and afford good sport. Perhaps "Silver Grey" might be able to give us a few notes on this fish, which would no doubt interest many of your readers. Mr. Ford, too, might, whilst visiting the Bain, make an excursion to Semmer Water, and verify my experience, by having a day amongst the bream and rudd. I don't understand angling for them, or I would have had many a good day's sport with them. Angling prospects are very good for the next few days, as the wind is W. and the barometer very low. We had a flood yesterday, and the river is again clean. A very light bloa (yellow body) was on the other day. The May fly was observed last week. I found a mountain throstle's nest with 3 nearly-fledged young ones on Tuesday last.—JAS. CARRY.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

I had an average day on Saturday last, 18½ brace falling to my share in five hours. I had not, however, any large ones, only two being over ½ lb. each. On the previous day, over the same ground, an angler killed between 6 and 7 lb. The most killing fly was the woodcock (orange body). On the 2nd inst. a working man, named James Iveson, of Gayle, killed in "The Stream" a magnificent trout. The fish weighed 2 lb. 13 oz. when weighed, after being carried in his captor's pocket all day. He was caught with fly, but what particular fly he took I have not ascertained. The water is simply perfection, and good baskets the rule. Barometer very low; wind, W.; so that angling prospects are good for a few days to come at least. I am using with success the woodcock (orange body), snipe bloa (yellow body), and water hen (yellow body). I am convinced from experience that browns, reds, and bloas are the best flies that can be used in mountain streams. I never use a winged fly, and think I have as good a share of luck as most people. I have not the least desire to sit upon Mr. Porritt, who has re-opened the question of salmon in trout streams. The reason I opened the question at all was to see if any conclusive proofs of the destruction of trout fishing by the introduction of salmon into any trout stream could be brought forward by the opponents to the admission of salmon above Aysgarth. I am glad our worthy Editor stopped the discussion when he did,

for certain parties, eager for the fray, rushed into print on a subject they knew little or nothing about, and instead of proving that the introduction of salmon was mischievous to a trout stream, they simply sang their own praises. Now, all parties who have mixed at all in society know there is a class of men who would define as a piece of Vandalism any measure that would tend to alter the present state of affairs in the least. The inhabitants of the district that would be opened out by a railway cannot live by staring at Aysgarth Force. Forsooth, because a certain influential class condemns a railway bridge over the Force, farmers may continue to trudge in all kinds of weather 8 or 10 miles to market. I cannot conceive what right any part of the community has to stand against what is for the public good. Our worthy Editor said in a note to a letter by me that on public grounds there could be no objection to the introduction of salmon to the head waters of the Yore. I am fully convinced if smelts were allowed to be taken the opposition would cease as far as the rod fisher was concerned, and I maintain that it would be no more a piece of Vandalism to place a salmon ladder up Aysgarth Force, in order that the Yore might be made the means of supplying food to the nation, than it would be a piece of Vandalism to plough a field of fallow or cultivate a common. Mr. Porritt writes as though smelts were in the river all the year round.

The floods of May

Take smelts away

is an old dis'ich and also a most true one. I have seen shoals of them during the month of April awaiting a flood to take them to the sea, and a pretty sight it is—hundreds of thousands of silver-clad sprites making the water glisten with the brightness of their covering, making their way over the shallows tail first, or swimming about in the deep. Thousands of pinks are destroyed by the trout, millions of spawn are devoured by trout and grayling when other food is unprocurable, and yet the smelt must be begrudged the flies, to which the trout has the same chance as himself. I have angled in trout streams pure and simple—I have angled in salmon trout streams; but give me the latter for making a good basket of good-sized fish either with fly or minnow. I am disposed to think that the size is increased by the crossing of salmon with trout. I have seen salmon and trout spawn on the same reid. I have seen a small female salmon spawn to male trout. I am afraid I have made my notes too long for one week, and must close by asking you to use the Editorial scissors if you think I have spun out too far. By-the-bye, I hear a party of the Cowl net fraternity was caught at work during the heavy water last Thursday.—JOS. CORRY.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

- A. MOWCKTON (Stretton).—The article on eels which we promised has been in type many weeks. We hope soon to find a place for it, and many other things which have been waiting a long time. In fact, on July 6 we shall permanently enlarge the paper and give new type all through.
- T. GARWOOD (Bury St. Edmunds).—The lined oil dressing, as recommended by Major Traherne a few weeks back, is the best you can use.
- S. W. M., Islington.—You cannot do better than use the recipe for dressing lines described by Major Traherne a few weeks ago.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

THE RAILWAY CONCESSIONS.

SIR,—The actual withdrawal by the London and North-Western of their concessions in favour of anglers, and the now well-known fact that other companies are considering the advisability of taking the same step, has very naturally caused much anxiety and discussion in those angling societies where the majority of the members are dependent on these cheap tickets for many of the pleasant outings which they now enjoy on the banks of our rivers.

It is with much regret that I am compelled to notice that the action taken by myself, at the request of my association, and which has resulted in the saving of one of these concessions, has been spoken of on one or two occasions in anything but complimentary terms, and one society has gone so far as to pass a resolution condemning me as no friend of anglers, but one seeking to serve his own ends. While I truly sympathise with these gentlemen, I cannot help feeling regret that they should have lent such ready ears to the teachings of one or two gentlemen who are really not in a position to give the facts of the case, and who are more noted for the coolness with which they pose and assume a knowledge than for their actual experience.

I take it, Sir, that there are gentlemen in the angling world—and I claim to be one of them—who may safely allow their past and their present efforts in the interests of the sport to speak for them, and who may abide a judgment taken thereon with perfect composure. I am naturally jealous of the good name of our association, and that feeling, and that alone, dictates this letter. If there be one angler who truly believes, or if he only fancies he believes, that we have done aught that is wrong, I ask him to attend our next meeting on the 16th inst., when a full report of what has been said and written to the railways will be given, and I, as chairman, hereby pledge myself to give such individual or individuals every opportunity to see the original letters received and copies of those sent, subject to the approval of my committee, I will ask you to kindly permit the report to appear in your paper, so that every angler may be correctly informed.—I am, &c.,

PHILIP GEEN,
Chairman of the West Central Association.

POACHING ON EXMOOR.

SIR,—I desire, in the interests of angling, to give publicity through your columns to the following, in the hope that these lines may meet the eyes of those who will be enabled to take steps to prevent such illegal practices in the future as I know to have been resorted to in the past—and very recently. A man named J. Mayne boasted a few days ago in my presence that he had this season assisted in netting many trout and salmon in the neighbourhood of Exmoor, and that he knew some men who had lately taken a quarter of a sackful of trout by liming in the Barle. This person (who is well known to the police) declared his intention of resorting to both the above-mentioned illegal means of taking fish in the waters of the same district during the present

season. I take upon myself all responsibility in publishing this letter.—I am, &c.,

J. R. ROBERTS.

South Molton, May 5th.

[We are much obliged to our correspondent for drawing attention to the poaching on Exmoor. The headquarters of these poachers will be found at Withypool and Simon's Bath on the Barle. Cannot something be done to stop it? We would gladly subscribe to any association of local gentlemen formed to protect the moor streams from poachers, and know many other anglers who will do the same. A few sharp sentences on those who lime or net the fish would soon put a stop to the practice, and then the fishing would soon be vastly improved. The farmers, the innkeepers, and all who profit by the presence of anglers (the innkeeper buys beef and mutton, &c., from the farmers) should support such a movement.—ED.]

THE HERTFORD FISHERY.

SIR,—Will you permit me to air my grievances (which many anglers, I know, feel as well as myself) in regard to the anomalies that seem to exist at Hertford as far as fishing is concerned? For two seasons I have taken a subscription ticket for "the Hertford Fishery," but have hardly met with any success, and begin to think that the said fishery is a delusion and a snare. Every time I have fished there I have found working men fishing with worm in what is described on the ticket as the subscription water, who have told me that they never take a ticket, and yet I have never seen them interfered with by the two youths who have interrogated me as to my possession of a ticket. One of these working men told me that he took two large trout with worm on the 1st of May, and he laughed at his companion and said, "We shall have 'em all out of the river by this day month." If the water is really "open," what right has the Town Council to charge for tickets? And if it be not open, how is it that these worm poachers are allowed to fish without challenge?

Let me add that I was surprised and grieved to see two or three "gentlemen" fishing there with worm. I suppose it must be allowed (though it is a shame that it should be in subscription water), but it is very sad to see "gentlemen" anglers condescending to such murder, and helping to spoil the fly-fishing for those of their brethren who are above such unsportsmanlike slaughter. The Hertford Town Council shall never see any more of my money. I will see them at "Worms" first; and as to the "gentlemen" who fish for trout in our southern waters with worm, they bear in my opinion the same relation to the true sportsman—*i.e.*, to the fly fisher—as "the Children" bears to the half-sovereign. Every trout fisher should consider himself, in respect to his art, "noblesse," and should proudly act on the motto

NOBLESSE OBLIGE.

FISHING AT CHAPEL-EN-LE-FRIITH.

SIR,—Can any of your readers give me any information respecting the fishing at Combes Reservoir, Chapel-en-le-frith, Derbyshire—whether there are any pike in or not, and can permission to fish be obtained? Any other information of any fishing about Chapel-en-le-frith will be gladly received by

INQUIRER.

May 6.

A THAMES PROFESSIONAL AND PROFESSIONALS FISHING.

SIR,—Allow me to trouble you once more, and I will endeavour to set this question at rest. You are aware of the time I advertised myself as a professional, and I confess business quite exceeded my expectations. Now a great many of my customers resolutely refused to have anything to do with trout fishing. The 1st April arrives with only one solitary engagement. I told this gentleman how things stood, and I thought I would fish. Well, he didn't object. Next time the above-mentioned gentleman came he got a fish of 5 lb. Everyone knows I always loved a bit of fishing, trout fishing in particular—in fact, it's all I care about. And I was ready to forego it for others if it was to my advantage, and to ask me to give that up for nothing is expecting too much. It's a fact I have not fished the hours for trout this season I should have done otherwise. "Subscriber" says he has seen me in my punt fishing by myself. I won't deny it. I was out all day yesterday fishing for bleak for bait, so you see I have not the advantage of a cast net. Such talk is very misleading. A person would have very little chance of getting a fish if he goes out with a man that hasn't been down the stream for some time. I should feel very faint-hearted on the subject myself unless I had been to look for a few fish. I know my own business best, and find catching fish increases it; at the same time, without any reasonable prospect, nobody knows better than I do the necessity of winding up. I am not alone in fishing by myself, only there's this difference—they don't get the fish.—I am, &c.,

GEORGE LUMSDEN.

CONTINUED KILLING OF GRAYLING ALL ROUND HEREFORD.

SIR,—I am sorry to inform you a friend of mine near Hereford writes to me (after all that has been published by you, and I hear also articles in the local papers have notified to all the ignorant anglers of that town that grayling are out of season and on the spawning beds) that more than one would-be sportsman of Hereford has lately killed a number of them, and one friend of mine has had small grayling brought to her house to purchase. It is extraordinary that anglers who persist in doing such unsportsmanlike acts should ever get a ticket given them on the Dinmore and Shobden Association waters; and I trust the useful hints given by your influential pen and those lately written by "Local Grayling Anglers" will soon stop this gross poaching of grayling.

Up here, thank goodness! all the community are fish preservers and mostly first-rate angling sportsmen, and many have been astonished at what I told them I witnessed on the banks of the Wye last season.—I am, &c.,

Carlisle, May 4.

LAXORING.

[The new Act will, we are glad to say, make it illegal to kill grayling in this way.—ED.]

GUT FROM MARSEILLES.

SIR,—As requested, I send you another sample of gut of this year's crop. Sometimes extraordinary strong gut is obtainable by those who like to pay the price for it, sometimes as much as £5 to £7 per 100 pieces wholesale. This quality is sent to Constantinople it appears.—I am, &c.,

15, Rue de l'Arsenal, Marseilles.

J. WILSON.

[The samples sent are strong, the breaking point being a dead weight of over 17 lb.—ED.]

WEYMOUTH.

SIR,—Will any of your readers be good enough to give me some particulars of any freshwater fishing in this neighbourhood? And perhaps someone can tell me of a village, within a few miles, where I can obtain a small furnished house for a few months, at a low rent?—I am, &c.,

JERSEY.

RECIPES FOR COOKING FISH.

SIR,—The sight of the recipe for cooking a sole in your issue of Saturday last reminds me that I have often thought of writing to suggest that recipes for cooking fish would be of very great value, if you would open your columns specially for such.

I give one for frying trout and eel: Instead of egg and bread-crumbs, use egg and coarse oatmeal, thick.—I am, &c.,

SUBSCRIBER.

Edgbaston.

[In 1879 we published a long series of recipes by "Cocinero."—ED.]

FISH IN AND FOR PARK LAKES.

SIR,—I am dissatisfied with Mr. Oliver's letter in last week's FISHING GAZETTE, for he "damns with faint praise" the Liverpool Angling Association. Why cannot he say candidly whether he agrees, or the contrary, with the paragraph in the *Weekly Post* of March 1, in which the writer broadly says that no anglers but those who use the artificial fly are fit to be called such, and in this category includes the members of this association because they had induced our City Council to stock the park lakes with young trout which might, and would, no doubt be occasionally taken with the worm. Oh! ye poor miserable sinners of anglers, who have to work hard every day of your lives to earn your daily bread, and who in odd spare hours of leisure or on high holidays seize your rod and bag of worms, and hasten to our park lakes to indulge in the fascinating recreation of angling, and in its peaceful and patient pursuit forget for a short time your lowly lot, ye are no anglers; go to,—do not come between the wind and the nostrils of the legitimate followers of the "gentle craft." Anglers, indeed! Ye are only poachers and pot grubbers. Get out your salmon and trout rods, go to the tackle shop, and expend ten or twenty pounds in the proper orthodox tackle and outfit, travel east, west, north, and south in search of the lordly salmon and the lusty trout, and then, perhaps, ye may be permitted to belong to the "high falutin'" order of legitimate anglers.—I am, &c.,

RD. WOOLFALL, hon. sec.

Liverpool Angling Association, April 23.

"ALLEGED POACHING IN OULTON BROAD."

SIR,—Under the above heading you published in last week's FISHING GAZETTE an extract from the *East Suffolk Gazette*. May I ask you in all fairness to insert in your next issue the enclosed answer which appeared in last week's *East Suffolk Gazette*?—I am, &c.,

LEWIS T. JOHNSON.

Hon. sec. of the Lowestoft and Oulton Angling Club.

"FISH PRESERVATION IN LOCAL PUBLIC WATERS."

"To the Editor of the *East Suffolk Gazette*."

"SIR,—In your last week's paper a letter appears from a London angler complaining of the poor sport to be had on Oulton Broad, attributable, as he asserts, to poaching, which is carried on in various ways; and very generously promising for 'himself and many more,' to subscribe to the Angling Protection Society at Beccles, 'if he finds that the poachers are prosecuted and punished as they ought to be.'"

"Now, according to Mr. Curtis's own showing, he has 'been in the habit of visiting Oulton Broad for the purpose of enjoying his change,' therefore he cannot be ignorant of the fact that the Waveney and Oulton Fisheries Protection Society has been doing its best, with the limited funds at its disposal, to protect these waters for the benefit of anglers generally. Now, I think I am stating a fact when I say that the subscriptions to the Protection Society are drawn almost entirely from the gentry who reside in the neighbourhood of these waters (many of whom never wet a line), and from a few anglers living in the towns adjoining, and that the society has received very little support from strangers who come here to fish these waters. In consequence of the apathy of these strangers to assist the society in their work, I am sorry to say that many who have been in the habit of subscribing to the society have lately withdrawn their support, giving as a reason that but very few of those who reap the benefit of the work of the society give their mite towards the expenses."

"For the information of Mr. Curtis and his angling friends I may state that the society has, within the last month, brought to justice two poachers, who were each fined £10, and in default sentenced to two months' imprisonment for netting in the river Waveney; and their drag-net, measuring some seventy or eighty yards, was ordered to be destroyed. These men are now undergoing their term of imprisonment in Norwich Castle. The expenses attending this prosecution have been such as to materially weaken the funds of the society, and it is to be feared that, if anglers who fish these waters do not come forward at once and give the society the means to 'detect and prosecute' these poachers of whom Mr. Curtis complains, things will get worse instead of better. Mr. Curtis states that he 'has to pay something like 10s. a day for boat, bait, and attendance,' but it is not compulsory for him to pay for the privilege of fishing. May I suggest that if those who enjoy the privilege of fishing in these waters were to support the Protection Society only to the extent of the price of one day's hire of boat, bait, and attendance, so that more than one bailiff might be employed to watch this extensive stretch of water, the abuse that Mr. Curtis complains of would soon cease to exist? I will conclude as Mr. Curtis commenced: 'If any abuse exist, the best chance of having it corrected is to expose it in the papers.' The abuse, according to my opinion, is (1) in not supporting the society whose one sole object is to protect these waters for the many as against the few; and (2) in expecting the society to do more than its funds will allow, with the uncertain hope that if these poachers be brought to justice, and insolvency be the result, Mr. Curtis and his friends will magnanimously come to the rescue."

"I am, sir, yours truly,

"J. HOOKER,

"Hon. Secretary, Waveney Angling Club."

"Beccles, April 22, 1884."

"P.S.—I may mention that this reply to Mr. Curtis's letter meets with the entire approval of the members of the Committee of the Protection Society residing in Beccles."

"To the Editor of the *East Suffolk Gazette*."

"SIR,—In your issue of last week you published a letter of Mr. John Curtis,

of Coleman-street, London, in which he says, firstly, that the best chance of having an abuse corrected is to expose it in the papers. I agree with him. Secondly, that he is a London angler, and has been in the habit of visiting Oulton Broad, &c. He may be. Thirdly, that the fishing on the Broad is as bad as well can be. Here I must join issue with him. The pike fishing has not been so good during the past season on this Broad as could have been wished, although it has been successful in the Waveney, but unfortunately we have so many come on to the Broad saying they are fishermen, when their very first actions in preparing their tackle prove the contrary—and these gentlemen spread unfounded reports that are detrimental. We have no close time here, and therefore pike fishing has been continued, and during the past week a gentleman from London has been here, and his takes have been as follows:—

“Wednesday, four fish, from 4lb. to 9lb.
 “Thursday, four fish, and about a dozen runs, from 4lb. to 7lb.
 “Friday, two fish, and lost three hooks, from 4lb. to 6lb., and four runs.
 “Amidst shoals of pike in very good condition, this gentleman, being in the city, may be consulted by Mr. W. Curtis as to the truth of this. It is well known that pike are not always on the feed, and hence many may be disappointed. The roach fishing is just now excellent, as I can prove by one of my fishermen (Ansdell). As to the poaching, I should be glad if Mr. Curtis would point out to me even one of the men who is well known as poaching by night and fishing with gentlemen by day. If he would, that man's living would be taken from him in the season to a certainty, as no letting boats would employ him. I beg also to say that my charges are 2s. for boat, 1s. for full bait, and man 4s. per day (and not 10s. as stated), making 7s. It seems rather hard upon the Conservators of the Waveney and Oulton Fisheries Protection Society, under whose vigilance the fishing has become very prosperous in a general way, and this with a very small list of subscriptions, to be included in this denunciation; when I, among others, can prove upon their taking upon themselves this protection we were very short of fish, and what were in the waters were very small, and that the improvement has been seen from year to year. If gentlemen, who are not charged any thing for the privilege of fishing, were to put their hand into their pocket for ever so small an amount they would be assisting to make the preservation complete.

“Faithfully yours,

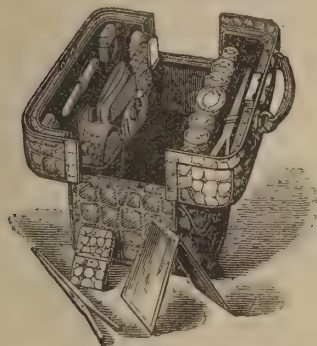
“GEO. MASON,

“Wherry Hotel, Oulton Broad.”

[Judging from the above correspondence, we should say that the taking of fish during the spawning season—especially pike—is the cause of the want of sport complained of.—ED.]

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THE STOCKING OF LOCH ARD AND ITS TRIBUTARIES.

TROUT PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION.

THE interesting operation of putting young fish into the streams flowing into Loch Ard was again successfully carried out on the 2nd inst., when, under the superintendence of the Trout Preservation Association, 35,000 *S. leuvenensis* fry were put in from the Howietoun Fishery, Stirling. Sir James R. Gibson-Maitland, Bart., who has repeatedly, by his gifts and influence, evinced his great interest in the operations of the Association, presented 10,000 of the fry, and the other 25,000 were purchased by the Association. The fry, contained in ten tanks, were conveyed from Howietoun to Aberfoyle by rail, where they were transferred to three carts, sent by Mr. James Blair, of the Bailie Nicol Jarvie Hotel, and taken to the Loch. They were then distributed over the following streams:—

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Ledard Burn	7,000
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Chou Burn (lower end)	7,000
Upper Chou Burn and Tributaries	14,000

A deputation from the Association and a number of members and other gentlemen interested in this work were present. The transference of the fry to the water was carefully and most successfully accomplished, not one single dead having been found. The last reports from the Loch state that the fry are very lively. This is the third season of stocking Loch Ard, the total number of fry introduced by this Association being 85,000.

GEORGE JAMES EATON, of Starkholmes, Matlock-Bath, Derbyshire, respectfully invites Noblemen and Gentlemen to try his standard **FLIES** for the present season. No flies sent or made up but what he himself has proved sure killers. A trial is all that is required, from gentlemen who can fish, to prove whether they may be genuine or not. Patronised by some of the best fishermen of the day. All flies dressed on the best Kenal hooks. Prices; Point Flies, 2s. 6d. per Dozen; Dropper Flies, 2s. per Dozen. Orders punctually attended to.—(ADVT.)

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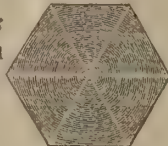
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Contributions are solicited, but the Editor will not undertake to return rejected MSS. unless accompanied with a stamped addressed envelope.

Correspondents are requested to write on one side of the paper only, and give their real names and addresses, not necessarily as signatures to their letters, but as a guarantee of good faith. Unless this rule be adhered to, no notice will be taken of such communications.

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The Fishing Gazette.

SATURDAY, MAY 17, 1884.

THE "MARSTON" FLY-ROD FOR TROUT.

IN answer to suggestions from several correspondents, I have asked Messrs. Allcock and Co. to make a 12-foot and a 14-foot rod on the same pattern as the 10 foot, with the butt tapering off evenly from the thick end—the best form of butt for obtaining a uniform spring. Messrs. Gaynor and Son, 10, Royal Terrace, Richmond, Surrey, write: "We beg to state that it is our intention to keep the 'R. B. M. Fly-rod' in stock," and Messrs. Allcock ask me to state that "none are genuine without their label on the butt." The sample reel line which I have sent to many correspondents is only to show size. R. B. MARSTON.

CLUB AND OTHER JOTTINGS.

BY L. B.

ON Tuesday evening, the 13th, the adjourned special meeting of the Central Committee of United London Anglers was held at the Bald Faced Stag, Worship Square, Finsbury, Mr. W. Metcalfe presiding. After the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting, some important business was transacted, among other items being the election of the following twelve gentlemen to represent the United London Anglers' Central Committee at the Fisheries Society's meeting:—Messrs. Dymond, Manning, High, Lay, Chambers, Bentley, Aldridge, Cundall, Metcalfe, Wagner, Clark, and Gray, the following three gentlemen being also elected to audit the accounts of the United London Anglers' Central Committee:—Messrs. George, Johnstone, and Chambers. Mr. Walker being also selected for a similar duty to the Anglers' Benevolent Society.

Mr. Chambers's motion next came on for discussion—it was to the effect that "this association should elect a working committee to facilitate and expedite business generally." Several gentlemen spoke, both in favour of and against the resolution. Mr. George thought the association had been able to conduct its business all these years without a committee, and that there was no need for such a body now. Mr. Ghurney was always free to call a special meeting when necessity arose for such; and in cases of emergency had certain discretionary powers to take such immediate action as would be for the general good. Several gentlemen, including Messrs. Bentley, Murphy, and Bonvoisin, spoke in favour of the election of a working committee, the last-named explaining at some length the duties of such a body. Ultimately, upon a proposition by Mr. Chambers, seconded by Mr. Murphy, it was carried unanimously, "That a Committee be formed, and that Messrs. Chambers, Manning, Bentley, Cundall, Wagner, Hampson, Murphy, Aldridge, Burgh, Farebrother, and Bonvoisin should compose same, the regular meeting nights being fixed for the 3rd Monday in each month, at 9 o'clock—rendezvous, the Bald Faced Stag, Worship Square. Mr. Ghurney thought the election of a committee was a step in the right direction and one they would be well satisfied with. He was particularly glad his friend, Mr. Bonvoisin, had accepted office to

serve on same committee. He was one of the oldest members connected with the United London Anglers' Central Committee. He could remember him some ten or twelve years ago and his counsels and practical knowledge could not fail to be of use to them; Messrs. Murphy, Bonvoisin, Bentley, and several other gentlemen thanking their brother anglers for the honour done them.

A long discussion took place on the next proposition, by Mr. Manning, seconded by Mr. Neal, "That any member or members of angling societies enrolled with either of the other associations may, though their society be not enrolled with this committee, take their privilege card from same, should they think fit."

A suggestion that so important an alteration should be referred for consideration to the working committee not meeting with favour, the original proposition was put and carried without opposition.

During the evening Mr. Ghurney stated that he had had a consignment of bream from the Norfolk Waters promised him by Mr. Lark, of Yarmouth, and he hoped in the course of a few days to be in receipt of same. He hoped—indeed, he thought he could confidently say—that improved fish carriers would be lent by the committee of the Health Exhibition, and arrangements had been made with the Great Eastern to have the fish brought by the shortest and quickest route to Broxbourne, and hence to be conveyed by Mr. Ghurney and his assistants to St. Margaret's, the well-known piece of broad water there being, he thought, the best suited in the whole River Lea to the fish in question. He trusted that should any angler be fortunate enough to capture one or more of these stock fish the first season, he would return it to the water; indeed, he proposed having printed, shortly, notices to be posted in the neighbourhood of the part of the water in question, asking anglers to comply with this suggestion. He might also say that Mr. Chambers had promised him some bream fry from the Exhibition, for which they would of course feel very grateful, though he must, for his own part, confess to a preference for a few good-sized stock fish to any quantity of fry.

The fish-hatching boxes of the Fisheries Society at Ponder's End and Waltham were, he added, doing well, and all contained a quantity of good healthy perch spawn. The first year had not, he confessed, been a success, though he felt convinced there had been a large quantity of spawn hatched out; but this year, with boxes on an improved principle, they confidently anticipated some grand results. They had about forty healthy parent fish in boxes at St. Margaret's, and about the same number in those at Ponder's End and Waltham.

With reference to assisting the widow and orphans of the late Mr. Morgan, Mr. Ghurney suggested the issuing of a circular and subscription list to the various angling societies, in preference to a benefit at a theatre or music hall; his recommendation being adopted, and a number of gentlemen giving in their names and volunteering their services as committeemen. Mr. Morgan's brothers of the pen are making an appeal among their own circle, and some of his relations are also bestirring themselves in another quarter; it is therefore hoped that the combined result will be such a sum as will enable Mr. Morgan's friends to start his widow in some business which will place her beyond the reach of want, and enable her to bring up the little ones respectably.

The roll was then called by Mr. Ghurney, the following societies responding:—Gresham, Cavendish, West Central, Alexandra, Stepney, Original Clerkenwell, Eustonians, Act-on-the-Square, Great Northern Brothers, St. Alban's, Edmonton, North Eastern, South Hackney, Alliance, Hand-in-hand, Little Independent, Sociable Brothers, West Ham, South Hornsey, Original Alexandra, West Green, Reform, Isaac Walton, Metropolitan, Hearts-of-Oak, Stoke Newington, and Good Intent; the Lea Bailiffs by Messrs. High, A. Clark, and A. Williams; the West Central Association of London and Provincial Angling Societies by Messrs. Field, Murphy, and Bonvoisin; Mr. Tibbatts being also present.

The officers' salaries were voted, and a vote of thanks to the chairman brought a busy and successful and well-attended meeting to a close.

A MONSIEUR STURGEON.

ON passing through Broad Street in the City, on Tuesday last, I received an invitation from Mr. Gow, the well-known fishmonger, to inspect a remarkably fine specimen of a sturgeon which had reached him that morning. The weight of the fish was estimated at 9 cwt; it measured 13 ft. in length and, being remarkably thick, it was 5 ft. round the girth. I never remember having seen so good a fish. Mr. Gow told me it took twelve men to drag it out of the market to get it into one of his vans. The appearance of the fish in the public thoroughfare of Broad Street attracted considerable attention; indeed, the crowd was so great at times as to require the services of the police to keep the roadway clear. The sturgeon was soon afterwards cut up, and met with a ready sale. B.

THE EEL AND EEL CULTURE.

THE best places in which to grow eels are lakes and ponds fed by springs, and with no outlets by which the fish can make their escape. Where do eels breed? This is a question which has not yet been satisfactorily settled. Until recently we were of the opinion that eels do not breed in fresh water: if this is so, we confess to being quite unable to account for the presence of very young eels in a piece of water which we rent. This water, about two acres in size, is fed entirely by springs, and is surrounded on all sides by high banks and fences, the nearest stream being three miles distant. No water flows into it, and none flows out. It is very deep in some parts, and the bottom is gravel, with thick mud deposits in places. There is an abundance of aquatic vegetation—indeed, there is one graceful plant, *Vallisneria*, (a description of which is given at the end of this article), which sends out very long, narrow leaves from a slender stem, grows with astonishing luxuriance, and completely chokes up all but the very deepest parts of the water. Last July we had to employ three men for some days to cut it with a scythe, and tons of it were taken off. It is called the "spawn weed" in Germany; its English name we do not know. There are also quantities of the American weed and other kinds. Fish of all kinds—carp, bream, pike, roach, rudd, perch, and tench breed and thrive in it extremely well, which proves there is an abundance of food. In the summer there are thousands of frogs round the sides. Between Nov., 1875, and May, 1877, 1,667 fish, including 500 eels, were added to the stock previously existing in the water. No eels have been put in since, and yet last summer and autumn we caught quantities of eels of all sizes, both with rod and line and in an eel trap. They were all extremely fat, well-fed fish, and if eels will not breed in inclosed waters, totally unconnected with any stream by which they could get to the sea, how is it that some of these fish were between 2 and 3 lb. in weight, and some only 2 or 3 oz.? Many escaped from the trap by getting through the bars, not half-an-inch apart, leaving traces in the shape of slime where they had got through. But the smallest were caught with rod and line, and were little longer and thicker than an ordinary lead pencil. The eel grows rapidly, and in three or four years will weigh 2 lb. or more; and to suppose that with an abundance of food some of them only an ounce or two in weight are at least seven years old is manifestly absurd. The only conclusion we can arrive at is that eels do breed in ponds.

The following extracts are from an extremely interesting and valuable paper on "The economic value of the Norwegian lakes and rivers as a field for Fish Culture." By N. Wergeland, translated by T. H. Bean, and published in the Report of the United States Commission of Fish and Fisheries for 1878.

The eel is born, as far as we know, in salt water alone, and migrates from this in early youth, when of the size of a coarse darning-needle, up all the brooks and rivulets to the fresh waters, where it passes many years of its life. In migrating up into the water-courses, it is not easily stopped by any obstacle. If the current is stronger than it can swim against, the young eel takes to the land, and continues its course in compact columns of many thousands on the moist banks; it winds even up the trunks of trees in dams, and thus advances where one would consider it impossible. Whether or not eels are born in the sea we have no certain knowledge; neither do we know whether they are also born in fresh water.

The journey of the eel-fry up into the water-courses takes place in April, May, and June—in different places at different times, probably according to the condition of the weather. From midsummer and during autumn, especially during the dark autumn nights, the eel goes from the fresh waters, where it has passed its preceding life, down to the sea, as commonly supposed, to propagate its species, and thereafter does not return to the fresh waters, but continues its life in the sea, where it is thought to make regular journeys from place to place. No one has ever come across adult eels migrating upwards from the sea. What causes this wandering to the sea no one knows. The exodus includes both larger and smaller eels at the same time, which do not appear to be of the same age or degree of maturity, and so they are found simultaneously in the sea, both large and small eels, as in the fresh water from which they descend. It is a warm water fish, and, therefore, is seldom found more than 500 feet above the sea level, but thrives in all kinds of waters, large and small, with or without affluents, if only they have a muddy bottom in which they can bury themselves in the winter.

It lives exclusively on animal food—insects, snails, fish, and flesh of all kinds, until and after it has become putrid. It is easily caught in many ways, the easiest being in eel-traps.

It is considered by many a very well-flavoured fish, and commands a high price. It grows very quickly. While 1,800 young eels are required to weigh a pound, thirty yearling eels will make up the same weight. At the age of three or four years, the eel reaches a weight of about two pounds. It can be cultivated by collecting the young during the migration from the sea, and there-with stocking ponds and pools; and if one provides for a supply of food, living or dead, they will grow quickly. The mode of cultivation, which, however, will presumably answer the purpose best will be to place small eels in a separate pond, and then to feed them with all kinds of offal of flesh and fish, to which there must be easy access; if it is a little putridified it will, as remarked, do no harm. They will then grow rapidly, and give a good return for their care and food. One must in the mean time look out that they do not escape from the pond by surrounding them with an inclosure which the eel cannot get over or through; otherwise they will in the night, during a heavy dew or rain, leave the pond and disappear. A belt of loose sand about the pond will also prevent them from escaping, if it has sufficient breadth. A pond for such purposes ought to have a muddy bottom and hollows in the sides, in which the fish may conceal themselves and find shelter both in warm and cold weather; if one can conduct running water through the pond, it will become so much the more profitable. In a pond of twenty square yards in size 150 to 200 eels can be accommodated, and thrive well if they obtain sufficient food.

The eel's tenacity to life is proverbial, and they can be transported almost any distance, and will live many days in water plants if they are now and then moistened and kept in a cold place.

Eel-farming, then, is an extremely simple and inexpensive matter, and, considering that in our large towns there is always a ready

market for them at prices ranging, according to the supply, from 4d. to 8d. or more per pound, it is a wonder our farmers do not cultivate their waters as well as their land. We are not so sure, as Mr. Wergeland seems to be, that eels will eat putrid animal remains; and for this reason. We left some fresh dead roach, which had been placed in an eel trap as bait (and very good bait they are), after taking out some eels, and sunk the trap again. Some were whole, but the majority had been partly eaten by the eels. After being in the water a day or two the bait became tainted, and no more eels were caught; but directly fresh bait was put in the eels came after it, and were caught. The same thing occurred on several occasions; indeed, we are convinced that the tainted fish repelled the eels, for they will often, when prowling about after food, find their way into an empty trap. Many years ago we used to stay every summer for some weeks with friends, through whose land a stream flowed which contained great numbers of fine eels. The miller got some in his traps, but the majority were caught on night lines baited with minnows, loaches, bullheads, lob worms, &c. We always found that if the baits were not taken the first night, it was of little use to leave them on the hooks, for no eels would touch them. Another curious thing about these night lines was that, although there were plenty of trout and swarms of chub and dace in the water, it was the rarest thing—in fact, quite an exciting event—if anything but eels was found on the lines.

The eel seems to create feelings of intense disgust or fright—more probably the latter—in other fish; at least, we cannot otherwise account for the following incident. One day last autumn, after catching about half-a-dozen roach for pike bait, we were a little astonished to find a young eel took the bait we were using for roach, viz., paste. As it had swallowed the hook, and not wishing to waste time then in getting it out, we broke the gut and dropped the eel into the bait can among the roach. Two or three of the latter instantly jumped clean out of the can, and the others rushed about as though scared out of their lives almost. On taking the eel out they became quiet directly, but made the same frantic efforts to escape when it was put back again.

Although the eel, as a rule, only swims about at night in search of food unless the water is coloured after rain, it will take a bait in the daytime, and in clear water if it is placed near its hiding-place. There are few more deadly ways of killing eels than poking a worm in between the big stones of a weir on a hot day in summer, even if the water is as clear as possible. A pair of india-rubber boots or your naked feet are the best things to stand in for this work, as any jarring of nailed boots on the rocks or stones sends the eel to the inmost recess of his hold. You cautiously approach the water's edge, and, peering down, see a miniature cavern formed by one big stone resting partly on another. You know from experience of many a stubborn "pull devil, pull baker," that in all probability that little cavern contains a lynx-eyed eel on the watch for any living thing which may come within a few inches of its mouth. You gently push your crook stick with a lob on the needle at the end down till it is wriggling in the entrance to the hole. With unerring aim and lightning-like rapidity the eel has struck its prey, and retired with it into the dark recesses of its home. You give a little time "to gorge," and then begins a steady pull. The eel has its tail round the stones, and only gives inch by inch, and instantly recovers any ground lost if you slacken line for a second. We remember once, when fly-fishing for trout on the Onny, in Shropshire, coming to a mill tail and watching two or three eels for some time. The mill was not working, the water was still, and in the dark entrance of an archway, through which at one time the water from an old wheel had come, was about a foot of water and a bed of mud. Lying half buried in the mud were two or three eels, from $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. to $1\frac{1}{2}$ lb. in weight. Their heads and half their bodies were distinctly visible in the clear water, bent back like a snake in the act of striking. There was a shoal of minnows just in front of the entrance, but they did not venture inside. After turning over a few stones on the bank we got a small worm or two, and pitched one gently just over one of the eels, which struck at it and instantly drew back into the mud. On gently pushing the rod top towards the others they also withdrew in the same way, reminding one of the similar habit of the lobworm. You go out in the garden at night, when the dew has fallen, with a lantern, and see dozens of worms 6 inches long, apparently crawling about the grass; but just step heavily and then look for your worms—they have vanished as if by magic. Or cautiously approach one and touch the grass near him—he is gone, tail first, into his hole before you can wink. It wants a quick hand and some practice before you can catch a feeding worm at night or a feeding eel in the daytime. The worm keeps his tail in his hole while he "rummages round" all the ground he can cover without leaving it in search of food, or a leaf with which to plug up the entrance to his apartments and keep the draft out when he goes to bed. Worms are wonderful things, as anyone may find out for himself who reads Darwin's most delightful work upon them; in fact, we will willingly give some account of worm life from Darwin's work if any of our readers express a desire to know something about the animals they find so useful. This account of the eel and how to farm it is in answer to a request from several readers for information on the subject.

[*VALLISNERIA SPIRALIS*.—"A diocious aquatic plant found in ditches in the south of Europe. The long, slender leaves have a very pleasing appearance in the aquarium. The manner in which this plant is reproduced, the tiny male flowers which float freely on the surface of the water, the female flowers at the end of their slender spiral stalks, and the singular movements of the plant are most interesting."—Rev. J. Wood.

Balfour says: "In the cells of *Vallisneria* an intra-cellular movement takes place, and is easily seen under the microscope by laying a portion of the leaf in water so as to render the object more trans-

parent to transmitted light. If the movement is not visible, the leaf may be immersed for a short time in water of the temperature of 70 deg. or 80 deg. The piece of leaf should always be prepared for an hour before it is exhibited. In the cells there are numerous green chlorophyll grains, some starch granules, and an occasional large nucleus, which are carried with a mucilaginous fluid round the interior of the walls of each cell. This movement is seen not only in the cells of the leaf, but also in those of the root, flower-stalk, spathe, and calyx. The movement takes different directions in different cells, but it seems to take the same course in any given cell, for if stopped it resumes the same direction. The motion continues for many days in a detached piece of the leaf when kept in water. The rapidity of the movement varies from half an inch to five inches per hour. The cause of these intra-cellular motions is obscure. They appear to be connected with the nourishment of the cell, and the process of cytogenesis (cell development). The roach appears to be very fond of this plant. We have seen them in shoals biting off and swallowing inch long pieces of the leaves.—ED.]

THE SMOKE OF BATTLE.

MR. H. CHOLMONDELEY-PENNELL, formerly H. M. Inspector of Sea Fisheries, and well-known as the author of several capital works on angling, has done good service by drawing attention in the public papers to the great value of a comparatively smokeless gunpowder. The powder at present used generally hangs like a pall over the soldier and sportsman, effectually preventing the movements of the enemy being kept in view. The broken British square at Tamaniéb was caused by this smoke pall, and at the Battle of the Nile Nelson would have captured the whole French Fleet but for this same smoke, under cover of which three or four ships got away. Messrs. Ridgway publish the collected letters on the subject.

CONVICTION FOR ATTEMPTED FISH POACHING AT WATFORD.

ROBERT COX was charged with fish poaching, at Bushey, on the 30th March. Police-constable Rhodes, 356 S, proved the service of the summons.

Mr. Boydell appeared for the prosecution, on behalf of the Watford Piscators.

Charles Richard Lovejoy stated: I am a surveyor, living at Gladstone Road, Watford. On the 30th March, I saw the defendant and another man on the London and North-Western R. railway. I watched them through a telescope, and saw them take a pole from a tree and put a wire upon it. A man then came along the railway, and Cox hid himself under the arch. They afterwards came out, and I saw them attempting to take fish twice from the Colne ditch, in the water adjoining the grounds of the Hydro-therapeutic Establishment. I saw Cox put the wire in order on three occasions, and the other man used it. On each occasion Cox held the other man's hand so that he might be able to reach farther. I went in pursuit of the two men, but did not overtake them.

Inspector Hobbins stated that the defendant had been convicted several times of different offences.

Fined 40s.; costs 14s. 6d. In default, one month's imprisonment with hard labour.

TROUT ANGLING COMPETITION IN NEW ZEALAND.

OTAGO ANGLERS.

A MEETING of the Match Committee of the Otago Anglers' Association was held on Tuesday, March 25th, 1884, to adjudicate the prizes and medals won during the past season, 1883-4. The gold medal presented by the Otago Acclimatisation Society for the heaviest basket of trout captured with the artificial fly only was won by Mr. James Wilkie, on the Shag River, with a basket of twelve fish, weighing 6 lb. 8 oz. Mr. S. Thomson was close up with a basket of nine fish, weighing 6 lb. 7½ oz.; the only other competitor, Mr. R. Johnston, had five fish, weighing 3 lb. 4 oz.

The gold medal of the Anglers' Association for season 1883-4 was won by Mr. G. M. Marshall, with a total weight of 52 lb. 4 oz., Mr. W. D. Smith coming next with a record of 50 lb. 9½ oz. Thirteen competed, but eight of these did not send in any returns.

G. M. Marshall.—November 9 competition: 19 fish, 19 lb. December 7 competition: 18 fish, 21 lb. 1 oz. March 21 competition: 17 fish, 12 lb. 3 oz.

W. D. Smith.—November 9 competition: 8 fish, 11 lb. 15½ oz. December 7 competition: 17 fish, 20 lb. 6 oz. March 21 competition: 14 fish, 18 lb. 4 oz.

R. A. Johnston.—November 9 competition: 28 fish, 10 lb. 1 oz. Did not compete in December and March competitions.

J. Wilkie.—November 9 competition: 5 fish, 6 lb. 6 oz. Did not compete in December and March competitions.

R. Coghill.—November 9 competition: 13 fish, 9 lb. 6 oz. Did not compete in December and March competitions.

The prizes awarded for the match held last Friday were as follows:—First, Mr. W. D. Smith, 14 fish, weight 18 lb. 4 oz.; second, G. M. Marshall, 17 fish, weight 12 lb. 3 oz. Five competed.

Mr. P. F. Stoddart was in the chair, and was warmly congratulated on his safe return from Scotland, and the hope expressed that a more animated spirit would prevail among the anglers of Dunedin in the coming season than had been the case in the past.

CLUB REPORTS.

ANGLERS' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

Since my last report I beg to acknowledge, with thanks, 5s. annual subscription from J. C. Murray, Central Association; 6s. 8d., donation from C. S. Bentley, Gresham Angling Society; and £1 2s from the donation box of the Izaak Walton Angling Society. The angling tournament to take place at The Welsh Harp is postponed to Saturday, July 26th. A special general meeting of the committee will take place on Friday, May 23rd, when members will oblige by their attendance; chair to be taken at 9 p.m.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

BERMONDSEY BROTHERS' ANGLING CLUB.

The annual supper and distribution of prizes took place on Monday, May 5, at the club-house, forty-five gentlemen sitting down, Mr. Fowler presiding, and Mr. Conn, vice, both offices being fulfilled in a very efficient manner; also our old friend and member, Mr. Benningfield, presiding at the piano. Mr. Fiddes, of the Anglers' Pride, and host of the Five Bells, Bermondsey Square, brought his violin, which contributed greatly to the harmony of the evening, for which the company present drank his health in musical honours. The next business being the distribution of prizes, our worthy chairman, in a few well-chosen remarks, presented them. Mr. R. Gafney, the hero of the season, took seven prizes—namely, gross weight, gross weight of jack, heaviest take on any Sunday during the season, two specimen prizes roach and bream, two daily gift prizes; Mr. Frost, five prizes; Mr. A. Gafney, four; Mr. Davison, two; Messrs. Benningfield, Mitchell, Shervall, Ayton, Clark, and Court taking one each. The chairman then proposed "The Health and Prosperity to the Bermondsey Brothers," coupling the treasurer's and secretary's names. The treasurer responded in a very able manner. The secretary briefly stated the position of the club at the present time as being very prosperous. Mr. Court proposed, "The Health of the London United Anglers," coupling Mr. Ghurney's name. Mr. Rushworth, as one of the delegates, responded in a few words to the point. The chairman then proposed "The Health of the Visitors." Mr. Fiddes, of the Anglers' Pride, responded in a very able manner. The following ladies and gentlemen contributed towards the harmony of the evening:—Miss Mills, Mrs. Russell, Mrs. Shuter, Miss Wake; Miss Mills also sang "Auld Robin Gray" in excellent style. The chairman sang "The Revelry" with great taste and ability, and also obliged with a comic reading during the evening; Mr. Goodrid, "Welcome Ever, Friend"; Mr. Conn, "Jack's Come Home Today"; Mr. Davison, "The Cottage with the Roses Round the Door"; Mr. Tell, "Rosherville"; Mr. Clark, "John Barleycorn"; our treasurer, Mr. Mill, with that pretty Irish ballad, "Nora M'Cree." The prizes promised by members and visitors amounted to £15. Mr. Fiddes, a visitor, one guinea; Mr. Shade, 10s. 6d.; Mr. Golding, 10s. 6d.; Mr. Hockley, a tankard; Mr. Norton and Mr. Needham also giving prizes. Our chairman being informed about the time, he called on our worthy vice for the last song, "All for Money," which he rendered in good style. Before breaking up a vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Benningfield for presiding at the piano, which he well deserved; also a vote of thanks to the chair and vice for the able and excellent manner they carried out the programme of the evening. A vote of thanks to the stewards, Mr. Frost and Mr. Rowland, brought this very pleasant evening to a close.—W. C., sec.

P.S.—The general visit of the South London United Anglers will take place on Monday, May 19th. I shall be happy to have the company of as many friends as can make it convenient to attend.

CLAPHAM JUNCTION ANGLING SOCIETY.

Our annual supper took place on Tuesday, the 13th inst., at the club house, Lord Ranelagh, Verona Street, Clapham Junction, when full justice was done by a company of some fifty members and friends to a most excellent repast, provided by our worthy host and treasurer, Mr. O. J. Speed. The cloth having been removed, the usual loyal and other toasts were given, followed by a selection of songs and recitations, leading up to the reading of the annual statement of receipts and expenditure and other interesting items connected with the business of the society, by the secretary, Mr. Wilson. The distribution of prizes was very efficiently made by the chairman, the principal winners being Messrs. Banfield, Wilson, Maslin, Innes, Boisseau, Wellman, Wakeford, and Epps in the order named. The prizes, which were of a valuable nature and very numerous, I am pleased to state, were mostly the gifts of friends, supplemented by private prizes given by the members, it being a strict rule with this society to expend a large amount of the income in preserving specimen fish. The benefit of this rule may be seen in the very extensive collection of cases now on view at the club-house as above, an inspection of which is open to all anglers on our meeting nights, Sundays and Thursdays. We have a few vacancies for members, and shall be happy to enrol new ones any business evening. The business portion of the evening having been got through, harmony was resumed and kept up with great spirit until 2 a.m. I must not omit to thank our friends for the very handsome list of prizes subscribed during the evening for the coming season. Chairman, Mr. R. A. Banfield; vice-chairman, Mr. Maslin; pianist, Mr. Crozier.—R. A. B.

GOLDEN BARBEL.

At the meeting held on the 13th, Mr. Robert Smith, a former member of this society, was re-elected unanimously, and about a dozen names were given in for the Anglers' Benevolent. Members are requested to attend on Tuesday next for important business, and also to arrange about the supper.—P. H.

GRESHAM ANGLING SOCIETY.

The ordinary weekly meeting of the above society was held on Tuesday evening, at the Mason's Hall Tavern, Mason's Avenue, Basinghall Street, Mr. Moore in the chair. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, and signed by the chairman. Some correspondence having been read, the meeting proceeded to the consideration of the prize list; several alterations suggested by the chairman, Dr. Brunton, and Mr. Thomas were made in it, and, as amended, the secretary was directed to have it printed and sent to each member. The society's year closes on the 31st instant, and the report and accounts will be prepared up to that date. The chairman, in reminding the meeting of this, said that this evening would be a convenient occasion to appoint the two auditors to go through the accounts, as required by the society's rules. The chairman and Mr. White having then been nominated for the duty, were unanimously elected to the office. A vote of thanks to the chairman having been proposed, was also unanimously agreed to, and the meeting closed with some very agreeable music.—H.

Highbury Angling Society.

The annual distribution of prizes won by the members of the above society during last season took place at the Plimsoll Arms, St. Thomas Road, Finsbury Park, on the 23rd ult., a very large number of members and friends being present. The secretary having detailed the various prizes to the company, they were presented by the chairman, Mr. Horwill, to the winners, as follows:—5 handsome rods, given by our host and treasurer, Mr. Denyer, for heaviest weights of jack, perch, roach, chub, and bream, were respectively secured by Messrs. Higley, Shipley, Lewis, and Anthony; half-a-guinea for heaviest single jack, given by Mr. Wells, taken by Mr. Shipley, with a very handsome specimen, scaling nearly 15 lb.; half-a-guinea, by Mr. Robinson, for second heaviest weight of roach, won by Mr. Anthony; half-a-guinea for heaviest single roach, given by the secretary, taken by Mr. Shipley, weight 1 lb. 10½ oz.; half-a-guinea for gross weight of perch, by Mr. Payne, taken by Mr. Shipley; half-a-guinea for heaviest weight of barbel, presented by Mr. Harley Champ, taken by Mr. C. Lewis. The value of half-a-guinea for heaviest weight of dace, by Mr. J. Smith, won by Mr. S. Howell; a clock for second heaviest weight of dace, by Mr. McDermott, won by Mr. Edward Wheatley; half-a-guinea for heaviest trout, given by Mr. Devonshire, won by Mr. Lewis. One guinea for heaviest weight of tench, by Mr. Sampson, taken by Mr. Higley; half-a-guinea for heaviest weight of gudgeon, by Mr. Lewis, taken by Mr. Devonshire. Two framed engravings of the value of two guineas, one to be the property of the society and the other for the winner for heaviest weight of all fish (bar bream), presented by Mr. Sampson, taken by Mr. Shipley; two silver cups for the first and second heaviest weights of all fish taken any one day during the season, presented by Mr. E. Wheatley, won by Mr. Shipley. There were also a very large assortment of special prizes, consisting of half-guinea rods, cooking apparatuses, meerscham pipes, sets of jugs, copper kettles, tea-pots, walnut cigar stands, tobacco, cigars, winches and tackle, taken respectively by Messrs. Anthony, Lewis, Howell, Edwards, Higley, Shipley, Chas. Rose, Edward Wheatley, Devonshire, Payne, McDermott, Temple, Harley Champ, and the Secretary. The fifteenth annual supper was celebrated as above on Wednesday evening, the 30th ult., when nearly fifty members and visitors sat down to a most excellent repast, under the presidency of Mr. Chas. Rose, who was most efficiently assisted by Mr. Horwill, in the vice-chair. The club-room was most handsomely decorated with flowers, ferns, &c., presented and arranged in the most artistic manner by Mr. Edwards. Mr. Chas. Otway also contributed some flags and trophies to add to the decorations, in which he most kindly assisted. The cloth having been drawn, the chairman gave the usual loyal and patriotic toasts, which were duly responded to. Mr. Edward Wheatley, in proposing "The Health of our President and Chairman," alluded in very happy terms to the good work which by his technical knowledge and urbanity of manner he had done to raise the club to its present satisfactory position. The chairman having returned thanks, proposed the toast of the evening, "Success to the Highbury Angling Society," coupling with it the Secretary, which was most enthusiastically received. The secretary, in acknowledging the toast, stated that having been associated with the society from its commencement, and being himself an earnest angler, he had always endeavoured to uphold, both in his private and official capacity, proper and consistent modes of fishing, in which he had been fully supported by his brethren around him, and he fully believed that the laudable energy shown by the members to promote the success of the society in the past was a fitting symbol of what they would do in the future. Later on Mr. Cockcraft, in a few eulogistic words, proposed "The Health of Mr. E. Wheatley," not only for the services he had rendered in conjunction with Mr. Chas. Otway, jun., in the arrangement of the musical programme, but for the readiness with which at all times he was ready to assist in the best interests of the society. That gentleman having returned thanks, the company formed themselves into a smoking concert. Mr. H. L. Watson presided at the piano-forte, and played the overtures to "Masaniello" and "Tancredi" in perfect style. The chairman gave, very quaintly, "I don't mean to tell you her name"; Mr. Penney, "The Blacksmith's Shop," in excellent manner; Mr. F. C. Pheasant, "Tell her I love her so," very sweetly; and Mr. Denyer, in his usual form, gave, with great effect, "Meet me once again"; Mr. Otway gave, in a style worthy of such a patriotic song, "The Standard of England"; and his son followed with "Oh, would you like to go?" which was received with great applause, as was Mr. Edward Wheatley's "Skipper." Professor Shipley performed some most extraordinary feats of legerdemain, and Mr. Sampson, in the most pleasing and artistic manner, gave "The Charity Dinner," while Mr. Chadwick afforded much pleasure by playing "Old Robin Gray" on a Japanese fiddle having only one string. With the National Anthem, the evening was brought to a close, an extension of time having been granted by the authorities, and all present congratulated themselves that once more the Highbury Angling Society had scored an unmistakable success in its social character, every one feeling that an enjoyable meeting had been held.—JAMES EDWARD WHEATLEY, sec.

HOXTON BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

The next general visit of angling societies will take place at the above house on Thursday, May 22nd, when we hope to have the favour of as many members as can make it convenient to attend.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

INDEPENDENT BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

The first annual supper of this society takes place on Tuesday next, May 20, at the club house, Bird in Hand, Long Acre, W.C., Host Mr. Waldoch, when we shall be happy to have the company of as many friends as can attend. We are also open to enrol a few more members.—H. MOORE, sec.

LEICESTER ANGLING SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of the Leicester Angling Society took place on Monday, at the Mayor's Parlour, Old Town Hall. There was a fair attendance, and the chair was occupied by Councillor A. Stretton, who stated that the balance-sheet of the year compared favourably with that of former years, notwithstanding that additional expense had been incurred by the renting at a cost of £10 of an extra reach of three miles to Aylestone. Set against that there had been forty-three extra full members, and an excess of 280 day tickets over last year, which made up for the increased expense. The secretary then read the statements of accounts, which showed that eighteen tickets at 10s. 6d., 210 at 5s. 8d. youths', and 987 one day had been purchased, and the balance in favour of the society was £5 3s. The chairman moved its adoption, stating that the society proposed to introduce trout-fishing so that members might be able to pursue "the gentle art" during the close season. The Leicester Corporation had done all they could to assist the society, and

when the canal and river were improved, widened, and deepened there would be a considerable alteration for the better as regarded the fishing. Some very good pike had been taken during the last season. There had been one prosecution, that of a fishmonger, who was fined for exposing freshwater fish for sale during the close season. He thought it only right that there should be a prosecution in such a case. The fishing contests had been very fair, and the members were steadily on the increase, showing an extended interest in the society. The statement was seconded and adopted, after which the rules were read through for revision by the members; but with the addition of a few minor alterations, they were adopted as in the past. The election of officers for the ensuing season was next proceeded with, and the following gentlemen were re-elected:—Alderman W. Barfoot, president; G. D. Harris, Esq., vice-president; Councillor A. Stretton, hon. treasurer; G. F. Harrison, Esq., auditor. The committee elected comprised Messrs. A. Smith, Foxon, Kitson, Farrar, W. Wells, Rowston, Ward, Gask, Paterson, Hobbs, Stafford, F. Taylor, J. Wood, C. Lings, E. Clarke, with Mr. J. S. Hardey, secretary. The remainder of the proceedings was a vote of thanks to last year's committee for their services, to which Mr. Bonner responded. A similar vote to the Corporation, the Canal Companies, and Sir Henry St. John Haford for having allowed the society the right of fishing in their waters; and a vote of thanks to the Mayor for the use of the hall, and to Alderman Stretton, the chairman, brought the meeting to a close.

NOTTINGHAM WELLINGTON ASSOCIATION.

The half-yearly dinner of the members of this association was held at the Wellington Hotel, Station Street, Nottingham, on Friday evening, the 9th inst., under the presidency of F. F. Cleaver, Esq., sheriff of the borough. The chairman was supported by Aldermen Ford and Burton, and Mr. S. Hancock, of Radford, and Mr. Eddowes, secretary of the Trent Fishery Board. The chairman, in submitting the toast of the evening—namely, "Success to the Association," spoke of the many expert anglers it possessed, and said it stood second to none in the kingdom. He reminded his hearers that during the dinner they had partaken of Trent salmon. Alderman Ford, as chairman of the Nottingham Health Committee, said that although he was not an angler, he still took intense interest in the sport. He understood that eels had been sold in Nottingham Market Place out of season, and if necessary, the committee, whose chairman he was, would put a stop to the sale. He, however, desired information on the subject. Mr. Eddowes, in reply, said the question turned on the point as to whether eels were freshwater fish. It had never been decided whether eels went into brackish water for the purpose of breeding, and he, as representing the Trent Fishery Board, would be glad to take a case on the subject. The chairman next presented a very handsome and costly timepiece to Mr. F. Warsop, the esteemed president of the society, in acknowledgment of his efficient services to it since its formation. Mr. Warsop replied, and observed that, although he had presided over many harmonious and social meetings of the club, he had really had no ulterior object in view. A number of valuable special prizes were promised for the ensuing club, and it is a noteworthy fact that so far the members have killed more salmon than those of the kindred societies combined.

PECKHAM BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

At a special general meeting of the above, on the 6th inst., the following resolution was proposed by Mr. G. Durant, seconded by Mr. Duke and carried unanimously:—"That the members of this society having heard from their delegates an outline of the future policy of the West Central Association, heartily agree with the same; and leave, with the utmost confidence, their interests in the hands of the officers of the said Association." Mr. George Durant was elected chairman; Messrs. Matthews, Duke, and Turner as members of the committee; and Messrs. Matthews and Durant auditors. The hon. sec.'s report shows a fair balance in the hands of the treasurer, and we have every prospect of a very good season. Mr. James Gafney and Mr. Watkins, both late members of the Anglers' Pride, were unanimously elected members of this club. Mr. Gafney has worked very hard in the interests of anglers generally. A special meeting of the P. B. A. S. will take place on Tuesday, June 10th, for the transaction of important business. All members are earnestly requested to attend.—GADFLY.

PERTH ANGLING CLUB (SCOTLAND).

This club held their first competition for the season on Loch Leven on Tuesday. The weather was clear and mild in the morning, but a fine breeze set in during the afternoon from the south-west. The club had eleven boats engaged, with twenty-one competitors, who reported a total catch of 82 trout weighing 60 lb. 9 oz., and the prizes were gained as follows:—First, Mr. G. D. Malloch, 2 trout, 9 lb. 15 oz.; second prize, Mr. D. M. Stewart, 7 trout, 6 lb. 2 oz.; third prize, Mr. Wilson, 9 trout, 5 lb. 13½ oz.; fourth prize, Mr. Hay, 8 trout, 5 lb. 13 oz.; fifth prize, Mr. Sharp, 8 trout, 5 lb. 4 oz. There was a sweepstake for the heaviest trout, which weighed 1 lb. 13 oz., and was killed by Mr. Howat.—J. MCG.

PERTSHIRE ANGLING CLUB (SCOTLAND).

On Wednesday, 7th inst., this club had eight boats engaged on Loch Leven with fifteen competitors, and of this number ten gave in reports, whose aggregate baskets contained 41 trout, weighing 30 lb. 1½ oz., the prizes being gained as follows:—First prize, Mr. Butler, 8 trout, 5½ lb.; second prize, Mr. Pople, 6 trout, 4½ lb.; the third was a tie between Mr. Hay with 6 trout, 3 lb. 15 oz., and Mr. J. Malloch with 5 trout, 3 lb. 15 oz.—J. MCG.

PHENIX ANGLING SOCIETY.

The annual dinner of the above society took place last Tuesday evening, when about thirty-five members and friends sat down to a capital spread provided by host Murch. The table looked splendid under its load of flowers—in fact, it seemed like a picnic in a summer garden. After the cloth was cleared several capital songs were rendered by Mr. Moore, of the Independent Brothers; Messrs. Goodge, Barr, and Pipe, of the Little Independent Anglers; Messrs. Jennings, Elton, and Wagnor, of the Bostonians; Mr. Fitch and several members of the Great Northern; Messrs. Hibbs, Seggins, Glynn, the Brothers Ashley, Grist, Elbourn, and Bartrip, of the Phoenix. Then the prizes were given away, the first and principal winner being Mr. Charles Slater. On his appearing the band struck up, "See the Conquering Hero Comes." Mr. Keen next received an ovation for being second on the list. Then our old friend Packer, third; then came the crowd, Messrs. Maynard, Baillie, Grist, Glynn, Frichard, the Brothers Ashley, Milton, Bartrip, Elbourn, Clarke, and Burnitt, for one or two prizes each. Then the toasts of the evening—"The Future Prosperity of the Phoenix Angling Society," "The Health of the Secretary"

and "Treasurer," and "Chairman" were drunk, with deafening cheers. About £15 was announced for prizes for the coming year. Then more harmony kept things going as "merrily as a marriage bell" till 2 o'clock in the morning.—W. ELBOURN, sec.

RODNEY PISCATORIALS.

At the meeting held on the 14th by the members of the above, Mr. Pocock in the chair, it was decided that our first competition take place at Taplow on the 22nd, for a tankard given by Mr. G. Hockley, ros. 6d. by Mr. Harmon, a prize by Mr. Arnsby, and a book on the roach, by Mr. Hotham. Members to be allowed to start away on Saturday afternoon should they think fit. This business having been done, a discussion arose as to the right of the Central and the East Central Associations to make use of the expressions they did in reference to London and South-Western Railway privilege tickets, without consulting the ticket-holders, and the following is the result: "That it is the opinion of the members of this society, to whom the privilege tickets are a great boon, that the Deputation from the Central and the East Central Associations, that waited on Mr. Verrinder, of the London and South-Western Railway, in reference to the privilege tickets of that company, greatly exceeded their duty. First, by stating "they would only accept the privilege on the old terms or not at all;" and secondly, by stating, "they would rather see the privileges withdrawn entirely than take them through the medium of the West Central Association."—the officers of which association have, in the opinion of the members of this society, always done their best for the benefit of the whole body of London anglers. They therefore appeal to their brother anglers, to whom the privilege is also a boon, to support that association.—PINXIE.

SOCIABLE BROTHERS ANGLING SOCIETY.

Our complimentary smoking concert, which took place on Thursday, 8th inst., proved a great success, fifteen clubs being represented. Mr. F. Mills was in the chair, faced by Mr. Harry Mills, both proving very efficient chairmen. After a selection from the pianist, the chairman commenced the harmony, singing in grand style, "Hearts of Oak," followed by our popular member, Harry Mills, who gave "What is the use to despair?" which was, as it deserved to be, greatly appreciated. Mr. O. Lloyd sang in his usual quaint manner, "Nobody Knows." Mr. W. Hall was well received with the "Fire Brigade," as was Mr. T. Keymer's "Dirty Duffers;" Mr. G. Hall's "Twenty Years Ago;" Mr. R. Mill's "Never say Die;" Mr. W. Morris's "Midshipmite." Mr. Harry Mills again obliged with "The Policeman," and in response to an encore, gave "Mary Ann." Mr. S. Cole did well with the "Old Brigade," and Mr. R. Ritchie's "On the Boozie" was well received. Others who assisted were Messrs. W. Woodhead, Wakefield, Crouch, Roach, R. Spenceley, Brockett, Blacklegge, and Machin. Clubs represented were:—The Albert, Alliance, Alexandra, Burdett, Cavendish, Carlisle, Good Intent, Hearts of Oak, Hoxton Brothers, Izaak Walton, Original Alexandra, Stepney, and West Ham Brothers.—W. S. W.

THE PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

The usual weekly meeting of this society was held at Ashley's Hotel, Covent Garden, on Monday evening last. Amongst those present were Messrs. Gillatt, Gray, J. Lander (hon. sec.), Booker, Meyer, Clegg, Foreman, Fennings, Blundell, Jesse, H. B. Brown, Pattison, Harden, Hill, Arter, Adlington, Lemann, Perelli, Rocco, Robinson, T. Huggett, &c. Mr. Goodger was unanimously voted to the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Our worthy member, Mr. T. R. Sachs, for the present, on account of ill health, is confined to the house. We trust he may soon be again at our meetings. The hon. sec. read the report, in *Land and Water*, of the Aquarium at the Health Exhibition. The council of the National Fish Culture Association have been working very hard, the result being that they have placed the Aquarium in the most efficient manner possible. Mr. and Miss Sachs send exhibits, Mr. Pugh, and Dr. Brunton; and, as the large Thames trout caught last year is removed from our museum, I suppose our friend, Mr. Ross Faulkner, has that there also. Mr. Jardine is also fully represented. Several members described their angling excursions during the past week. Mr. Adlington has been with Mr. Ross Faulkner trout-fishing, but their sport was not good, and Messrs. Harden, Gray, and H. B. Brown have been fishing for Lea trout. Mr. Harden weighed in one nice trout, and Mr. H. B. Brown also took one. Mr. Gray hooked a very large chub, but, being out of season, returned same to its native element. Mr. Fennings called attention to the prize list for 1884. He mentioned that the prizes will be equal to last year, yet he was quite prepared to receive any further prizes before the issuing of the new list, which takes place almost immediately. The hon. sec. has secured a fine edition of "Best's Angling Companion" for our library. Our new member, Mr. Jesse, has been unsuccessfully trying for Thames trout. Many other anglers have done likewise. Try again, Mr. Jesse. Mr. Lemann had on view some very curious and interesting specimens of spinning flies, which were much admired for their make and colour. Whether or no such flies will kill is an open question. "Our Noble Selves" and "The Health of the Chairman" having been duly proposed and responded to, brought this May meeting to a close.—T. H.

WATFORD PISCATORS.

On the evening of the 7th the third annual dinner in connection with the Watford Piscators was held at the Leather Sellers' Arms, Watford. Mr. C. Healey occupied the chair, and there were also present: Messrs. W. T. Boydell (vice-chairman), Biggs, Thomas, Boydell, jun., Horne, Eden, Pigg, W. Ross, L. James, G. Goodwin, Gristwood, Sparrow, Bowers, C. R. Lovejoy, Vincent, Graves, Hayward, Bigwood, &c. The dinner, which was supplied by Host Braun, took place in the club room, and numerous specimens of rare fish in cases were hung upon the walls. Upon the removal of the cloth, the Chairman gave the usual loyal toasts. He referred to the death of the Duke of Albany, and also to the duties performed by the Prince of Wales in connection with the opening of the Fisheries Exhibition. The Vice-Chairman next proposed "The Health of the Chairman," and alluded to the great interest which he invariably took in sporting. Mr. Healey, in reply, thanked those present for the flattering terms in which his name had been associated with the toast. It was very kind of those present to so cordially receive his name, especially as he was occupying the chair in the absence of their president, Mr. Fry, who was paying great attention to his duties—fishing in Scotland. He (the speaker) was quite satisfied that fishing was a sport which could be thoroughly enjoyed, and when once taken up it should be persevered in. The Chairman then gave "Prosperity to the Watford Piscators," with which was coupled the names of the officers. He sympathised with them in their art,

which deserved the greatest support. Fishing afforded the utmost possible pleasure, and it gave excellent opportunities for contemplation. He (Mr. Healey), as an admirer of nature, did not think a landscape complete without water. Another advantage laid in the fact that when a person was too old to make free use of his limbs he could enjoy fishing, which was no other than recreation to such a man. He was very glad to hear that the society was in a flourishing condition, and that it had a larger extent of water in its possession than was the case last year. In the takes at fishing the numbers were larger and the fish superior in quality. Lastly, several poachers that were in the habit of infesting the town and neighbourhood had been brought before the magistrates and convictions recorded. The success of the society was greatly due to the efforts put forth by Mr. Horn, their chairman; the treasurer, Mr. Vincent; the secretary; and the vice chairman, Mr. Boydell, sen., the latter of whom was most assiduous in looking after the legal interests of the club. In conclusion, he had the pleasing duty of presenting the numerous prizes that had been won. Mr. Vincent, whose name was coupled with the previous toast, responded. He was glad to say that the club was in a satisfactory state, and that in the course of the past three years, during which time it had been in existence, it had made rapid strides. The club had now more water in its possession than at any other time, and the fish taken therefrom had proved exceedingly good. The specimens taken had gratified everybody, and the club was greatly indebted to Mr. Holland-Hibbert and Dr. Hood for their kindness in allowing their waters to be dragged so as to help to swell the number of fish in their (the club's) waters. Angling in the club's waters was open to rich and poor alike. He (the secretary) was very glad the society had been established for that purpose, which gave the working classes an opportunity to fish as well as others. The members of the club had done all in their power to add to the number of the fish in their waters, which were now well stocked. Several poachers had infested the town of late, but it was very gratifying to know that several of them had been prosecuted and that others would be dealt with in a similar manner. Although the club was in a flourishing condition, yet he was sorry to say that their meetings were poorly attended. He hoped the hint would be taken, and that the attendances on all occasions would improve. He trusted the club would continue in its prosperity, and that the members would have some good takes in the future. Mr. Thomas proposed "The Health of the Vice-Chairman," who had always taken a great interest in fishing. He was also very active in bringing offenders to justice, and when they were placed in the dock, he made it rather hot for them, and did his best to see them inside St. Albans Gaol. He could only wish Mr. Boydell all success, and that he might be the means of having convictions recorded against a few more poachers. Mr. Boydell, in reply, said it was quite true that he was very fond of fishing, and he hoped others would be induced to join the club. A large number of poachers had been convicted, and if they did not stop their game they would assuredly be proceeded against. The vice-chairman then moved votes of thanks to Mr. Moon, of Cassio Bridge, Mr. Holland-Hibbert, and Dr. Hood. Mr. Vincent gave "The Health of Mr. Horn, the Chairman of the Club," who was one of the two remaining members of the club at the time of its formation. Mr. Horn was one of the best supporters—in fact, it was he who founded the club. It was owing chiefly to his exertions that the club was in its present flourishing condition, and he hoped Mr. Horn would be spared for many years to come, so that his interest in its welfare might be continued. The vice-chairman proposed "The Health of Mr. Fry, the President of the Club." Mr. Fry was most anxious for the success of the club, and the members could always go to him for advice. "The Host and Hostess" and other toasts followed. At intervals several capital songs were rendered; pianoforte solos given, and the company were delighted with the cornet solos of Mr. Graves.

WAVENEY ANGLING CLUB, BECCLES.

The ordinary monthly meeting of this club took place on Thursday evening, May 8, at the club room, Caxton Arms. The president, J. E. Crisp, Esq., occupied the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, and five new members elected, Mr. C. Bumpstead proceeded to read a paper "On the Question of Intelligence in Fishes." The paper was a most interesting and instructive one. During the discussion which followed the reading of the paper, some remarkable instances of intelligence shown by fishes were related. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Bumpstead for his paper. The secretary then gave a statement of the financial position of the club, showing that after handing over to the Waveney and Oulton Fisheries Protection Society the sum of £7 10s., and paying for printing rules and other incidental expenses, there would be sufficient funds left to allow of four prizes being offered for competition, which the committee had decided should be offered for the highest aggregate weights of fish (excluding pike) taken in three competitions during the coming season. Besides these prizes, Mr. J. E. Crisp has offered a special prize for the heaviest fish (excluding pike) taken in three competitions; the vice-president (Mr. W. P. Garrod), for the best show of fish, over 8 oz. each (excluding pike) taken in either of the three competitions; Dr. Metcalfe, for the finest show of pike, taken with snap tackle, during a special competition in October; Mr. C. J. Pickthall, for the finest tray of six fish (excluding pike) in the first competition; Mr. J. P. Walton for the finest tray of six fish (excluding pike) in the second competition; and Mr. T. Wilson for the finest tray of six fish (excluding pike) in the third competition. The next monthly meeting will take place on Thursday, June 12th, when Mr. A. W. M. Buscall has promised to read a paper.—J. HOOKER, hon. sec.

WESTBOURNE PARK PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

The usual weekly meeting of this society took place on Tuesday evening at the Pelican Hotel, Westbourne Park. Mr. Buttery kindly consenting to take the chair in the absence of Mr. G. Evans—the attendance not being very large. Several trout have been taken since the previous meeting, the weights of which were read out, Messrs. Oatley and Evans being the successful anglers. Mr. Walker had a fish of 2½ lb., from West Drayton. Another member also had one from the same water of 3 lb. It is hoped there will be a good attendance of members next Tuesday evening, when the prize list for 1884 will be read through preparatory to printing.

GEORGE JAMES EATON, of Starkholmes, Matlock-Bath, Derbyshire, respectfully invites Noblemen and Gentlemen to try his standard FLIES for the present season. No flies sent or made up but what he himself has proved sure killers. A trial is all that is required, from gentlemen who can fish, to prove whether they may be genuine or not. Patronised by some of the best fishermen of the day. All flies dressed on the best Kendal hooks. Prices: Point Flies, 2s. 6d. per Dozen; Dropper Flies, 2s. per Dozen. Orders punctually attended to.—(ADVT.)

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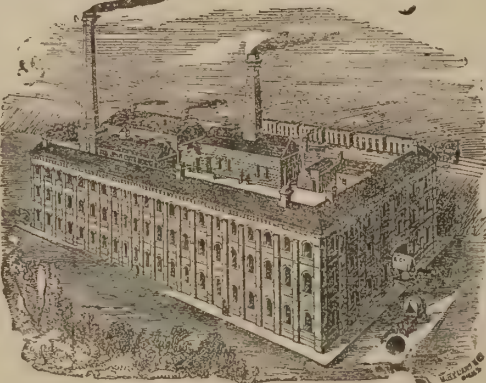
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1872.
1873.
1877.
1880.

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VIENNA
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AWARDS.

1867.
1868.
1869.

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Address Manager, FISHING GAZETTE, 12 and 13, Fetter Lane, London, and send
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RIVER REPORTS.

TIME OF HIGH WATER IN THE THAMES.
To find the time of high water in the Thames at any of the following places,
to the time of high water at London Bridge (given below).

	30 minutes for Chelsea.
40	" Putney.
45	" Hammersmith.
50	" Barnes.
55	" Kew.
75	" Richmond.
80	" Twickenham.
85	" Teddington.

Example:—If it is high water at 2 o'clock at London Bridge, it will be high
water at Teddington about 3.25, or eighty-five minutes later; but it must be
remembered that a strong wind accelerates or retards the tide very much.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.

		Morning.	Afternoon.
For Saturday,	May 17	6.8	6.33
Sunday,	" 18	6.59	7.29
Monday,	" 19	8.0	8.36
Tuesday,	" 20	9.11	9.47
Wednesday,	" 21	10.19	10.54
Thursday,	" 22	11.24	11.54
Friday,	" 23	12.0	12.20

Whit Monday falls on June 2.

THE LOWER THAMES.

Notwithstanding the favourable days, there has been poor trout fishing, the
anglers have not been out to any great extent, and amongst those that have
been out success has not generally attended their efforts, and some good fish
have been lost by others. At Kingston, John Johnson, sen., says, "One
morning, in a hundred yards, I saw from seven to eight fish, all feeding at the
same time. I was at Teddington Weir yesterday, and saw plenty of small
fish. Should the weather continue warm, the trout will follow them up."
Mr. H. Dickinson has taken a nice trout of 3½ lb. at Kingston. At Sunbury,
Mr. Edward Lukyn has captured a fine trout of 10½ lb.; the length of the fish
was 29 inches, and 16 inches round the girth. The old district of Staines has
been coming out in good form. John Keene, sen., has piloted an angler to
the capture of a trout of 4 lb. 1 oz. Mr. Blackman, with John Keene, jun.,
one trout of 3 lb. and another of 6 lb., and Mr. Mason a fine fish of 8 lb. A
gentleman, fishing from the banks under the Weir, caught one of 2½ lb. Bravo
Staines! There is one general complaint—"The river is full of trout, and no
one comes to try for them." One fisherman writes, "I can count from a dozen
to twenty fish feeding every evening in my district, and scarcely anyone comes
to try for them. I have only been out three times in three weeks." Another
writes, "There are plenty of trout in the river, if you can send some one to
catch them." It must be borne in mind the trout anglers have entire possession
of the river up to the sixteenth of June, and then the great army of general
anglers will disturb their present tranquility. It is for them to make the best
of the four weeks that lies before them, and a little waiting and working will
meet with a sure reward. There is one report come to hand which says, "There
are the largest trout in this neighbourhood, but the anglers cannot hold them."
The only plan to get over this report, is for the anglers to go and catch some
of these large fish—it will prove the best negative. A gentleman fishing at the
Hampton Court Weir on Wednesday afternoon, with Thomas Wheeler, caught
a handsome trout of 10 lb.

UPPER THAMES.

The river is in prime trout order, and every station well stocked with fish, as
evidenced by the takes at Bray, Windsor, Maidenhead, Cookham, Marlow, and
Henley, the aggregate coming up to nineteen decent fish, the best going 7 lb.
and least 2½ lb. The Thames, evidently under careful supervision, is once more
becoming the river of rivers, as it certainly ought to be, and Londoners need

not go much more than out of their parlours to have fair sport.—MARLOW BOZZ.

Datchet.

The few warm days in the early part of the week brought the barbel and chub on the shallows, and the barbel especially were jumping about all over the place. I have only to record the capture of one single trout, taken by a gentleman fishing with me on the 9th., $6\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Some rain is wanted to sharpen their appetites.—GEORGE LUMSDEN.

Ballynahinch.

Since last report we have had a rattling spate. To-day the waters are fining down. Mr. G. Sutherland fished Monday and Tuesday; first day got three, 10, 10, and 14 lb.; second day, one, 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Every prospect of good weather now.—WALTER BLACKADDER.

Bure (Norwich)

During the latter part of last week, and for several days this, sport may be said to have been good on this stream—if numbers can be the criterion; but I am sorry that reports still point to netting going on on this water, as the fish caught run so very small. Now, we know that large fish have existed here in the past, and one naturally asks, where are they? as any number of small immature fish can be caught all the way down the river, but sizeable ones form the rare exceptions. I do hope that during the coming season some improvement in this respect may take place, and it is my intention, shortly, to personally see each proprietor at the various stations and try once more to arrange for accurate supplies of information, and thus keep your readers well informed as to the best and most likely spots to ensure sport. With regard to the conveniences and comforts at each station, I shall be pleased to reply to any enquiries either through the GAZETTE or by private letter. Weather unsettled, cold, and very windy.—ROBERT MOLL.

Coquet (Weldon Bridge).

River in splendid condition for fly fishing. Seven-pound basket of trout with red spinner caught by Mr. Oliver to-day (May 14).—FREDERICK BROWN.

Dee and Don.

For a few days in the end of last week both rivers were rather unsettled, but they are now in splendid order for angling. Fair baskets of trout are still being got in the Don with the fly, but, on the whole, unless pretty well up the river, there is somewhat of a falling off. Several of the trout anglers have left for the season. The net fishing on the rivers and along the coast was particularly good last week, some 1,600 to 1,700 fish being got, a few of them being grilse. We have heard of a grilse being caught at Aboyne with the rod. Strange that none have yet been captured at the Bridge of Feghpool. They usually show themselves there as early as anywhere on the Dee and its tributaries. One or two have been hooked and lost in the Banchory District. Last week the fish got in the nets were, on an average, a good deal larger than the usual run of spring salmon. The weather is now fine and mild—the snow on the hills melting—and everything looks promising for the angler. Dee fishers, not but that there are exceptions, have not fully realised their expectations this year, so far as it has gone. Good takes for a few weeks in the beginning were the rule, but since then the sport, particularly on the lower reaches, has been rather poor. We fear the extensive use of the natural minnow and shrimp has contributed in some measure to bring about this result. Fish, except fresh-run ones, are usually shy, and tend to come short. For the fresh-run fish, of which a very considerable number ascended on Saturday night and Sunday, small flies ought to prove as tempting lures as anything else, if not more so. Small logies, Jock Scotts, Jeannies, and pitfours will no doubt kill well if given a good fair trial. Disease amongst the salmon is disappearing greatly. Sea trout are abundant, and taking to the river in considerable numbers. They, as well as other fish, are in excellent condition. Reports.—Woodend.—Saturday, F. Watson, Esq., 1 fish, 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Aboyne Castle Water.—Colonel Keen, Monday, 3 salmon, 6, 8, and 9 lb.; Major Ross, Thursday, 1 salmon, 14 lb. Huntley Arms Hotel Water.—Lord Paget, Tuesday, 1 salmon, 2 lb.; Colonel Vivian, 1 salmon, 8 lb. Blackhall Water.—Mr. Frank Farquarson, Thursday, 3 fish, 9, 10 $\frac{1}{2}$, and 12 lb. On the Inchmarlo Water, J. Paton landed 1 fish of 15 lb. on Thursday. Cairnton Water.—D. Rae landed several fish during the week. A few fish were got on the Park and Dorris reaches during the week. H. T. Broadhurst, Esq., and party are enjoying good sport on the Cambus O'May reach, as is also W. Cunliffe Brooks, Esq., on the Glentanar Water. Col. Chambers, Glentanar, Friday, 1 fish, 7 lb.; Cambus O'May, Wednesday, 1 fish, 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb.; Monday, 2 fish, 8 and 10 lb.; Thursday, 2 fish, 8 and 14 lb.; Monaltrie Water, Saturday, 1 fish, 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. J. C. Wordie, Esq., and party are still landing a good many fish at Braemar. Monaltrie.—F. Picop, Esq., Monday, 2 fish, 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ and 18 lb.; Tuesday, 2 fish, 10 and 10 lb.; Friday, 2 fish, 8 and 9 lb.; Saturday, 1 fish, 6 lb. Tom Kinnaird, keeper, Monday, 1 fish, 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Invercauld Hotel Water, Ballater.—W. Crisp, Esq., Tuesday, 6 fish, 8, 8, 9, 10, 12, and 12 lb.; Wednesday, 1 fish, 8 lb.; Friday, 2 fish, 8 and 11 lb.; Saturday, 1 fish, 11 lb. Captain Smith, Friday, 1 fish, 14 lb.; Saturday, 2 fish, 11 and 15 lb. The snow, in the presence of genial weather, is now disappearing somewhat from the hills. Water and weather alike are all that anglers could desire.—W. M.

Our Aberdeen correspondent telegraphs:—"For your issue of April 26 we supplied the following incorrect information, to which we beg you to give an emphatic contradiction, viz.: 'The keeper at Thainston is having real splendid sport, hardly ever securing less than 15 lb. of trout a day.'"

[We regret our correspondent was misinformed at the time, or the report would not have appeared.—ED.]

Dove.

The wind has been north-east for days and days. The stream is very bright and clear, so that one imagines everything beneath the surface visible. This is a fallacy, however, for trout at the bottom lie very close, and are most difficult to distinguish from stone and weed. It is 10 o'clock, and breakfast at the hall has been over a quarter of an hour when the river-keeper is announced. We will call him Job. He is an ardent lover of fishing, with a most penetrating eye with respect to the whereabouts of trout. Although there is capital water within 300 yards of the park gates, Job prefers to lead me a dance over upland and lowland for at least a mile ere he will consent to my wetting line. "We'll try this pool up, sir," he vouchsafes at last, and with a bubble, an iron blue and an April dun for the tail I set to work. But the favourite pool yields only one small fellow, which is promptly returned. A little further is a very likely place, but to-day there is hardly enough water. A throw over the left shoulder well across and up-stream (always fish up-stream on bright days when the water is

clear and sparkling), is rewarded by a nice fish evidently in good condition. Keeping well at the bottom, and obliging me to let him have a little line, he makes a furious and sustained effort to get beneath the overhanging boughs of a bush. Keeping in mind, however, Job's instruction to hold up the point of my rod, I can easily afford him this amusement. Soon he tires of it, and begins a rush down stream, but I bear upon him and bring him across the heavy water, and before he is aware of it, he is past escape in the net. Weight, 15 oz. Just above an old grey bridge spanning the river with a single arch, there is a likely shallow. The fish lie well over, and a long cast is necessary, but there is nothing behind to prevent it, so, here goes. "Got him?" says Job. "I think so," I say, at the same instant affecting that movement of the hand so fatal to a trout, when, with your fly in his mouth, he turns his head homeward. This is easier water to play a fish in, and, drowned in his own element, he is soon landed. Weight, 12 oz. Space will not permit me to detail the capture of the six and a half brace carried back that day, but just look over my shoulder while a cast is made in that little eddy close to the side on which we are. If there is a trout anywhere, there is one there; the difficulty is not to frighten him. Fortunately, a dark cloud obscures the sun. Now for it! First cast—nil. Try again, expectantly. Ah! there! It is as though some unseen hand had caused a golden bar to revolve in liquid crystal. The next moment a full view is obtained, as with a leap, Master trout exchanges the element of water for that of air. Two more such leaps, and they are the last he will ever give. Let it not be supposed that sundry fish did not escape; but that day I was more fortunate than usual, and brought to bank more than I lost, and they averaged at least $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. apiece. Reader, if you love fly-fishing, may it be your lot to fish a stream as charming as the Dove. Swift and pure, flowing between rocky heights and verdant lowlands, it affords a variety of landscape exquisitely pleasing to the eye. If you sketch, take your book, for Dove trout are very fastidious, and sometimes won't rise for hours. If you are a real angler, you are contemplative (*vide* Walton), and the sweetness of the air, the melody of birds, the bleating of the lambskins, and the music of the ever-sung stream should raise your thoughts to the great and good God—the Giver of All.—H. S. ANSON.

Sport has greatly improved since I last wrote, some good takes having been effected with both the fly and minnow. We have had, too, a fair number of rods out—many more than in the previous week. The most destructive flies have been the grannam and the yellow dun of May, while of the spinning baits the Derby killer and the universal have proved as successful as anything. The Devon also accounted for a very nice dish near Brailsford, on Wednesday. With the present genial weather and occasional showers, I expect great things will be done on our river during the next month or two. I notice that Mr. Eaton referred the other week in the GAZETTE to the doings and misdoings of the Trent District Board of Conservators, asserting that they impose a tax upon the legitimate use of the rod, and make no return in the way of protection. This does not apply to our part of the district. Better observed close seasons, and more fish are the rule on the river. The very brooks, some of which are entirely unprotected, teem with fish—trout I mean, of course. If Mr. Eaton really has seen (and I have no desire to dispute his word) poison put in water containing trout, why doesn't he lay an information against the offenders, and claim the £10 offered by the Trent Board?—THE SPLODGER.

Eden (Carlisle).

The long-wished for rain ushered in the month of May, and on Saturday, the 3rd, the river, with two feet of fresh water in it, was in grand order for trout fishing; but the frequent storms of thunder, hail, and snow, accompanied by a hurricane of wind, stopped all sport. It was impossible to keep a line in the water, and of course there was no feed on. Next day the river rose another foot, and on Monday morning a few fair baskets were killed with worm. Tuesday brought a fine fly water, but unfortunately a fine day as well, and anglers came home grumbling about the bright sun. The much-abused weather made up for past delinquencies on Wednesday. It was dull and showery, and trout took the fly well. Archdeacon Prescott had a fine basket, and so had Mr. Warwick Hele. The Rev. E. Bowman, the Armathwaite champion fisher, killed nearly as many as he could carry, and George Ferguson had 10 lb. The same evening Mr. Slater landed a 12 lb. salmon, and lost another "monster." But they are always the big fellows that get away. Mr. Murray, R.N., also killed a small fish. Water still in good order for either salmon or trout.

Exe and Barle (Dulverton).

Water low and bright, not much doing, but rain has come to day; if enough falls to rise the rivers, good sport may be expected. The blue upright is still the killing fly.—C. W. NELDER.

Ifracombe.

Sea-fishing has been particularly slack, but is now showing signs of improvement. Several parties out this week fishing with ground lines. Their catches of tamlin and whiting have been very good. They report the fish in good condition and biting freely. A few rock cod and plaice were caught in a small trammel set at the back of Compass Hill. Thursday evening last a large cod was caught by a gentleman fishing from the Jetty, and every evening may be seen several amateurs with rod in hand fishing from the pier head, and, judging from their baskets of fish, the sport must be very good. Shallow Path and Compass Hill are also favourite spots for hand line fishers. They find small pout and pollock very plentiful. Weather at present boisterous.—E. COMER.

Lakes of Killarney.

Very heavy rain for the last week; the lakes rose very suddenly, and the rivers now very dirty, so that accounts for the bad fishing of this week. On the 8th inst., Tom Hayse got one salmon, 12 lb.; John Downing, one, 12 lb.; Tim McCarthy, two salmon, 23 lb.; next day, one, 10 lb.; Pat Roberts, one, 13 lb.; Owen Cournane, one, 13 lb. On the 10th Terry Robert, one salmon, 15 lb.; Pat Clifford, one, 11 lb. On the 11th the fishing match came off for the rod and reel. John Calahone and Bat Hussey the winners out of nine anglers, the highest number thirty trout; next boat, twenty seven; next, twenty-three, and so on. The day was a very bad day for fishing; the wind changed from south-west in the morning, to north-east in the evening. Scarcely any trout rose after 12 o'clock. The taking flies were orange body with blue hackle under the wing, rail's wing, also the orange grouse March brown and green rail. The second boat got a prize of four dozen of trout, flies tied by the celebrated Mrs. McCarthy. These fishing matches gave great sport to those who were interested in them. We hope to have one very soon again. On the 12th, Thade Maragh got one salmon, 13 lb.; James Hayse, one, 10 lb. On the 13th, Tim McCarthy, one salmon, 11 lb.; Denis Connell, two salmon, 20 lb.—TIM MCCARTHY, fisherman.

Leicester.

There are not very great facilities in this part of the country for trout-fishing, and, consequently, during the close season, angling items hereabouts are somewhat scarce. Some nice trout have been caught by the subscribers at the Thornton Reservoir, near Leicester, but these waters are so overrun with perch that it greatly interferes with the fishing. Several brace of very good fish have been landed. The trout stream at Desford has lately been well fished with but little result. The Leicester Angling Society hold their annual meeting next Monday, and the Mayor, G. Anderson, Esq., has kindly lent the old Town Hall for the occasion. Mr. A. Stretton will occupy the chair, and there is certain to be a large muster.

Lochs Tummel and Runnoch Perthshire.

The weather on Friday at Loch Tummel was pretty favourable for anglers. A southwesterly balmy breeze prevailed for the greater part of the day, and there was a fine ripple on the water. One of the Loch Tummel Hotel boats was out and Mr. G. McGregor, Kirkcaldy, had excellent sport. He captured two beautiful trout weighing 4 lb. and 3 lb. respectively. They were in capital condition, and gave some fine play before being landed. Mr. McGregor again fished the Loch on Saturday, and very exciting sport was got, though the weather was very calm. His capture was two trout weighing 3 lb. and 2 lb. respectively and six small ones averaging $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. each. Two gentlemen from Edinburgh fished the river from Loch Runnoch on Saturday and killed twenty trout weighing 10 lb. The water is in splendid order for fly fishing and excellent baskets may be got when the weather turns a little warmer.—J. McG.

Lugg and Arrow.

Both these streams are in good condition for the anglers, who have availed themselves of the nice warm weather of the last few days, and have been quite busy with the fly. The water is still clear but low, and several nice lots of trout have been taken in both these streams with the blue dun and little May fly. On Friday a gentleman visited the Lugg with the blue dun, and landed some very good trout. A gentleman tried the Arrow the same day, and took seven very nice trout with the little May fly. Fishing in the Arrow on Saturday, a gentleman had some very good sport with the fly, and landed a very good basket of fine trout. A few small trout were taken with the blue dun the same day in the Lugg. In the Lugg on Monday the fish were rising well at the little May fly. One angler landed a dish of 3 lb. of splendid trout in prime condition. The Arrow was tried on Monday with the fly, and some good fish taken. On Tuesday some good trout were taken in the Arrow with the blue dun, but little fishing done in the Lugg. The Finsley is in good fishing order, but low. Some very good fish have been caught in it this week. On Monday a nice lot of trout were taken with the May fly, and another lot on Tuesday with the fly. Some good sport has been had in the Ivington district with the fly, and some good trout taken. Fishing quiet in the Monkland Waters at present. A few nice trout have been taken in Earsland Waters.—GWYNNE.

Suir and its Tributaries.

The sudden change from cold easterly winds revived the fishing for a time, and some good sport was had for the first week of the month. The following salmon were killed on the Knocklofty Waters, April 29th:—Wm. Cornwallis West, one of 11 lb.; 30th, one of 12 lb.; and May 1st, another of 18 lb.; and Mr. St. Aubyn, one of 10 lb. 8 oz.; 2nd, Sir Thomas Troubridge, one, 13 lb. 8 oz.; 6th, Mr. A. Balfour, one of 8 lb. 8 oz.; and T. Philan, one of 11 lb.; while Captain Gillon heads the list with a splendid twenty-six pounder on the 7th. Since then very little was done, nor need we expect much until we have a good flood, an odd fish here and there being all the sport to be accounted for. Even the nets are most of their time idle. The trout fishing is excellent for the last fortnight, and there is generally a very good rise any soft evening from 7 o'clock till about half-past nine, during which time the rails are pretty thick on the water. During the day the best flies are the hawthorn, wrens, grouse, and hackles, black, grey, and red.—DORA.

Tay (Perth).

The weather on Wednesday was rather cold for anglers, but some of them had very fine sport. In the forenoon the sky was cloudy, and in the afternoon a heavy rain fell, accompanied by a strong easterly wind. For the most of the day there was a fine ripple on the water. Towards evening the water began to rise, and the fish were rising very freely to the fly. Mr. C. L. Wood, of Freeland, fished the Faskally Water, on the Tummel, a tributary of the Tay, which was in good angling ply, and had excellent sport. He landed four beautiful salmon, weighing 16 lb., 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb., 15 lb., and 13 lb. They made some very fine play. From their silvery appearance they seemed to have been newly run. The weather on Thursday was rather inclement; in the morning heavy showers of rain having fallen, and the river continued to rise. As the day wore on, however, the weather changed, to be more promising to anglers; but a cold, easterly wind prevailed all day. Mr. C. L. Wood of Freeland, fished the Faskally Water and captured a fish of very fine quality. It was wild, struggled, and ran frantically. It weighed 17 lb. over. On Friday the Master of Rollo fished the Faskally Water for a short time, but during the preceding night, the water rose about 5 feet, and fishing had to be abandoned. No part of the Tummel affords good sport when running high. A number of good baskets of trout were being got daily before the water began to rise so high. The river continued to rise high on Saturday, and angling was rendered almost impracticable. Mr. Albert Butler, Faskally, however, fished the Faskally water for a short time, and got a nice plump fish. A number of parties fished the Tay from Logierait downwards towards Dunkeld on Saturday, and got very fair baskets of trout. Mr. D. Mitchell, Pitlochry, had a very good take of trout, running from $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. to $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. On the Logierait Hotel water some beautiful trout were got, averaging about $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. The Tummel on Monday still continued to run pretty high, and the atmosphere was dull and cloudy until the afternoon, when there were a few blinks of sunshine. Mr. C. L. Wood, of Freeland, and the Master of Rollo, fished the Faskally water, and had fair sport. Mr. Wood had a fish weighing 10 lb., and the Master of Rollo captured a salmon weighing 16 lb. These gentlemen fished this water again on Tuesday, and the water continued too much swollen for successful angling. Mr. Wood, however, captured three nice salmon, weighing 19 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb.—J. McG.

Teme (Ludlow).

Anglers have had a pretty good time of it this week, the waters being well visited, and fair sport being had. On the 11th inst. the weather was extremely hot. At four o'clock in the afternoon the thermometer registered 90 deg. in the shade and 103 deg. in the sun. Some refreshing showers have fallen, and the waters are now all in excellent order. Salmon were seen in the Teme on the 11th inst. by Ashford weir, also up the Burway waters. Excellent trout

have been caught up the Oakley Park quarter, also down below in the Ashford waters. The little May fly and black gnat have been good killers this week. A gentleman visiting the Clun on the 10th inst. caught twelve splendid fish, averaging nearly $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. each. He used most of the afternoon the blue dun and March brown. Another gent, on 12th inst., landed fifteen trout from the same stream; but the fish, which were all caught in the stream running through one large meadow, were not large ones; the largest did not weigh $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. On the 13th inst., eleven fair-sized fish were caught in the Onibury waters with the March brown by a Ludlow gent, and nine by a visitor who used effectually the little May fly. The members of the Leintwardine Club don't seem over eager to pay their water a visit this year. The river is well stocked with fish awaiting the angler, and all in splendid condition. The Corve has had a few visits, but the class of fishermen, though excellent sportsmen, are different to those which visit the Teme and the Clun. Little or nothing doing in the Ledwyche.—S. LUDLOW.

Teme (Tenbury).

The anglers of this part could not wish for better weather than has been had the last few days. The water still keeps clear, but is rather low. The fish sport freely at the fly, and the flies are now to be seen on the water in large numbers. The best killing flies are the little May fly, black gnat, and blue dun. Some very good sport was had near the town on Friday with the little May fly. A gentleman landed a good lot of trout, weighing 6 lb. the lot. Fishing in the water above the bridge on Saturday, a gentleman took a nice dish of trout with the fly, averaging from $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. each. A lot of good fish were taken near Easton Court the same day with the fly. Walking by the waterside on the 11th inst. we saw some of the finest trout we have seen for some time basking in the sun on the top of the water, and some of them would weigh quite 2 lb. each, which shows that this part is stocked with some very large fish. On Monday, a gentleman took a very nice basket of trout with the fly. Capital sport was had by a gentleman on Tuesday, who was fishing down the river with the little May fly and blue dun, when he took a good basket of fine trout. The Kyre and Rea are both in good fishing order, but low. Some few nice trout have been taken in the Rea, and a few in the Kyre. These streams are strictly preserved, and it is only a few days ago that two young men were fined at Tenbury for fishing in the Kyre. The Ledwyche has had but few visitors this week, and but few fish have been taken.—WORCESTER.

Torrige (Woodford Bridge).

The river has been in a very bad state for fishing for a week or so past, and the catches not worth a report. However, the first three days of this week, the sport has been good. Mr. Bligh, of Helstone, caught three dozen and five on Monday; while two gentlemen, from Barnstable, took on Tuesday and Wednesday 33 on the first day, and 29 on the second—the favourite flies being the blue upright and red palmer; and the small Devon minnow was also of good service.—JOHN BLAKE.

Trent (Nottingham).

The river has been low and clear during the week, and salmon anglers have mustered in force, especially at Weston, Shardlow, Willington, and King's Mills. Those from Derby have been singularly industrious, reaching the swims as early as 4 a.m. On Monday, in the Shardlow "Long Swim," two fish were taken by Mr. Robinson and Mr. F. Johnson, of Derby. The latter had only once previously tried his hand, and yet he succeeded in bringing to bank a grand specimen of 19 lb. Of course, he went to Derby highly delighted. Mr. Robinson's fish turned the beam of the scale at 20 lb. On Saturday, at Willington, Mr. S. Banks, of Derby, took with the spinner one of 19 lb. (his first fish); and on Tuesday, Mr. S. Sils, of Nottingham, was to the fore with one of 17 lb.—a truly grand prize. Mr. Wilkinson (Derby) has had two of close on 45 lb., bringing up his total for the season of 20 fish. Mr. Brown, of Derby, had also a couple; Mr. H. Coxon, of Nottingham, had one of 20 lb.; Mr. Parr, of Nottingham, had one of 16 lb.; and Mr. Snowden, after allowing one to escape, secured one on Monday, of 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Just as I am about to despatch this report I hear from Derby that Mr. Tyson has caught at Willington a fish of 15 lb. On Tuesday, the nets were used at King's Mills, with the result that 15 fish were secured. Here the *bona fide* anglers regret this wholesale slaughter.—THE MAN AT THE CLUES.

Tweed and Teviot.

The sport got by the partisans of the rod and line since our last report has been very good, so far as regards trout-fishing; but salmon angling has been almost nil, the river being out of order. The slight flood that occurred last week greatly improved the chances of the trout angler, and many baskets have been got. One dish of ten trout, killed on the Tweed on the 13th inst., weighed 7 lb. On the Junction, Mr. Drummond and Mr. P. Elliot have had good sport with fly and minnow. On the 13th inst., A. McCutcheon, sen., had 7 lb., and T. Lindsay 3 lb., both baskets killed on Tweed. On the Teviot, T. Dickson, with fly, had 4 lb., and a basket of 7 lb. was also got by A. McCutcheon, jun. On both rivers many takes of from 3 lb. and upwards have been killed, mostly all being got with fly. Mr. Graham Macpherson, of the Traquis Arms Hotel, Peebles, took over 9 lb. of fine trout from the Tweed on Friday last. Three of them weighed 3 lb. 2 oz. The lure was a small spider fly. Berwick, Tweed, Net Salmon Fishings.—During the past week these fishings have continued very fair, and improved takes are being got, trout being more numerous than salmon. Prices are—salmon and trout, 1s. 7d. per lb.—MAXWHEEL, Kelso.

Wye and Derwent.

Both rivers still keep in first-class condition for fly-fishing, and fair baskets of trout have been killed daily, with the exception of Tuesday, which was a wretched day for both of the above rivers, for there was scarcely a fish to be seen rising anywhere, although there was a fair quantity of natural flies out on both streams. The yellows have come out very strong both on the Wye and Derwent, and fish are beginning to take them in good earnest. Trout are particularly fond of this delicate insect, and I find that they give the preference to it over any other fly that can be shown to them, while it lasts, and that is longer than any fly I know. I recommend the use of this fly till the end of August. It beats all drakes ever invented, let the feathers be ever so costly. It is simply made from the dotterel's butt, or shoulder of the wing, with a dirty yellow Esterhazy body. This is the most difficult body to get; in fact, from all my long experience as a practical fly-tyer and every-day fisherman, I never saw the body made by any other fly-tyer that was perfect: the more my dotterel and yellow dun flies are used, the better the colour comes out of the body—in fact, I, myself, have frequently killed fish when I could scarcely perceive a fibre of the feather left on the dotterel fly that was tied "buzz." The yellows may be depended on as killers when the drake is at its height. I have killed trout with it, using two bob dotterel flies, and the natural drake or point; and many times I have felt fish lugging my drop fly, when I have been watch-

ing my natural fly sailing down. I have been out with many parties—first-class fly-fishers—on purpose to test it both on the Dove, Wye, and Derwent, against the artificial drakes now in use; and, I am pleased to say, on every occasion the dotterel and yellow dun flies have proved far superior, often killing fish that had just taken the natural drake. It may be used from morn to night, and kills in both stills and streams. No dyed feather, that I am aware of, is equal to the dotterel. Honey dun hackle over the same body kills well late in the evening, and a fly winged from young starlings, with honey tinge hackle, ribbed with gold twist, and without, and the same body, is a killer; but I myself give the preference to tackle flies. On Monday night I was out for a couple of hours, and killed six brace of good trout, with yellow dun and dotterel flies. The red sand fly and light dun have all taken fish. The bottom fishers about Matlock have taken some good trout the last thing at night, with ant eggs for baits, several trout being nearly a 1 lb. a piece. To-day (Thursday) we have had a lot of heavy rain fall, which has discoloured ooth rivers; a little fly-fishing, especially of an evening, ought to be first class next week.—GEORGE JAMES EATON.

Yare (Norwich).

Nothing of any particular note has been done on the river. Even small fish are scarce, and I fancy that is a fact which will please anglers, who are now anxiously putting their tackle in order, and dreaming of delightful days that are in store for them at Buckenham Ferry, Brundall, and Cantley during the next four or five months. I fully expect that this season the roach-fishing will surpass anything of late years, as the total abolition of drag-netting must soon begin to tell a tale with regard to all species. I am not sure whether the new Act gives our conservators power over the tributaries and dykes, with regard to roach, perch, bream, &c., in the same manner as I understand it does with respect to jack, during the spawning season. I sincerely trust it does, as poaching of all descriptions, in all waters, ought to be put down. This done, and no number of rods and lines can make any appreciable difference in our splendid stock of fish. Prospects—unsettled.—ROBERT MOLL.

Yore (Hawes).

I was out on Saturday last and took 6½ brace; I followed an angler who killed 9½ brace. With the exception of one fish my lot fell victims to a moor poult bloa (yellow body), the exception fell to the woodcock (orange body). I rose and hooked many fish. I was out for a short time last evening and hooked a very fine fish, and after playing him a while he took into his head to take to the shallows. I was obliged to let him go (as I was angling with a hair stinging) and on his nearly running dry on the gravel bed the hold broke out and I lost him. This was certainly the best fish I have ever hooked in this locality. Fish are well on the rise. Angling prospects for the next few days are good. Rain is falling, and every prospect of a flood. I am looking forward to another average day on Saturday next. I should recommend March poult, water hen, woodcock, and corncrake flies as being most likely to be successful.—JOS. CORRY.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

- H. L. M.—We like the feel of the rods referred to, but have not used them in actual fishing.
C. L. R.—“Quill bodies” are made from the fibres which project on each side the stem of the peacock, and other suitable feathers. You must strip the fluffy down off between the nails of thumb and forefinger, and can use the fibre (it is not a quill) in its natural colour or stained.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

THE “SPEY” CAST AND “STANDARD COLOURS.”

SIR,—I am sorry I have been unable to fulfil my promise to illustrate and describe “Clarke’s Spey Cast.” I am told that Mr. Partridge, the artist, returns to town this week, and, if so, I trust I may be able to send you the articles for an early number of your paper.

If I am disappointed again I will illustrate the “Standard” salmon flies; but I am glad to inform you that I have obtained the assistance of Mr. A. Fairweather, the London manager of the Perth Dye Works, and he seems pretty sure that he can dye the seal’s fur the shades I require. Then my illustrations and articles will be of much more service.—I am, &c.,

GEO. M. KELSON.

THAMES TROUTING.

SIR,—I took a pretty trout on Monday last in the Thames at Kingston, its weight being 3 lb. 6 oz. Having landed it and rebaited my hooks, I had not long to wait, for in less than five minutes a splendid fish came at me, but I unfortunately lost it—making two good fish I have unluckily lost in a month.—I am, &c.,

H. DICKINSON.

High Street, Kingston-on-Thames.

SALMON TAKING BAIT IN SALT WATER.

SIR,—Salmon will take the fly pretty freely in Loch Fleet—a salt-water loch in Sutherlandshire, close to the Mound of Fleet, and near the station on the railway. The fish take the fly as the tide comes up when near high water. The water is salt.—I am, &c.,

EDWARD HAMILTON, M.D.

9, Portugal Street, Grosvenor Square.

TADPOLES AS BAIT.

SIR,—A few days ago I turned about forty or fifty tadpoles into my large aquarium. There were several Thames dace, besides other fish, such as rudd, gold fish, minnows, &c., in the tank. The dace and rudd greedily devoured the live tadpoles, and the gold fish also enjoyed them. I should think that live tadpoles, carefully baited on very fine hooks, &c., would be a very good and attractive bait for dace and roach. They can be obtained in almost any stagnant ditch or pond.—I am, &c.,

A. R. H.

[We are quite sure our correspondent has overlooked the fact that the tadpole can only be obtained during the fence months.—Ed.]

OUSE AND IVEL, BLUNHAM.

SIR,—Under the above heading, in your last week’s “River Reports,” is the following paragraph:—

“Fine sport is anticipated with trout fishing, which commences early. I have fished the rivers Ouse and Ivel, at Blunham, for many years, and it is certainly news to me that “trout fishing” is to be had on either river. Possibly trout have been turned in lately. Your correspondent, “J. W.” can doubtless enlighten me.—I am, &c.,

A. R. H.

WORM-FISHING FOR TROUT.

SIR,—With reference to the letter in last week’s issue of the FISHING GAZETTE, by “Noblesse Oblige,” relative to the “Hertford Fishery and Worm-fishing for Trout,” I beg to ask your permission to endorse all therein said with regard to the taking of trout with worm. In my humble opinion, it is indeed very sad to see “gentlemen” anglers condescending to such unsportsmanlike slaughter, and, with your permission, I will give a similar instance. About four miles from here there is a brook containing trout which, through the kindness of a nobleman, who is Lord of the Manor, is given to the proprietor of a public-house on the estate, and near the brook, for the purpose of issuing tickets on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays at 2s. 6d. each day ticket. Now, I sometimes avail myself of this privilege, and have done so for about three years during the season, which is from 1st May to 30th September, but have never met anyone fishing there who used anything else but the worm, and later on wasp grub, myself spinning the minnow, and where practicable throwing a fly.

Now, what is the result? Men come down from Manches’er and places near there, generally on Saturday afternoon, or perhaps the evening before, so as to commence early on the following morning, and fish with the worm. At the end of the day their takes mostly range from two to ten brace—of what? Why, trout of 3 oz. to ½ lb. They are not satisfied with taking the larger ones, but the smaller ones [as well. Surely, Sir, this is a case of killing the goose that lays the golden eggs! This is the only trout fishing for miles round this place, and yet these men come down here week after week and take away both large and small trout, all caught with worm, and leave none for those who live in the neighbourhood, and object to such an unsportsmanlike method of fishing. I venture to suggest, Sir, that in a short time this charming little brook will very soon not be worth anything. Last Saturday I saw three men all fishing with worm, and, on asking one if he had had any sport, he said, “I have just caught a little one.”

Doubtless, I shall be condemned by numbers of anglers who consider worm-fishing for trout legitimate; but I brave all their displeasure, believing that this wretched worm-fishing is little short of poaching. I hope, should this letter be seen by those who know the brook referred to, they will adopt some other and more sportsmanlike method of taking trout, at the same time remembering to return all small ones taken. Apologising for taking up so much of your valuable space—I am, &c.,

H. B. S.

Knutsford, May 13.

[There are more ways than one of fishing with a worm for trout, and it depends very much upon local circumstances whether the plan employed is fair or unfair. The man who by “up-stream” fishing on such waters as the Yore, the Coquet, the Eden, &c. in June, July, and August, can in low, clear water kill a basket of trout in the daytime, is not less scientific or sportsmanlike than the fly-fisher. Catching trout in a little brook by fishing the holes and streams with worm and float is another matter entirely, and though it is boy’s work when the water is coloured, when it is clear it does far less execution than either fly or minnow—i.e., in the daytime. We confess that where the worm and minnow are not prohibited, it seems almost too much to expect that anglers who cannot fish with the fly will abstain from fishing entirely, in order that the fly-fishers may get all the fish. Personally, our sympathies are in behalf of fly-fishing; but we should be sorry to brand every man who fishes for trout with a worm or a minnow as a poacher, or even as unsportsmanlike. Of course, to slip a worm, or gentle, or live fly on to your artificial when fishing a preserve in which only artificial fly is used is the meanest of poaching.—Ed.]

SALMON IN THE TRENT.

SIR,—The Wellington Angling Society had a grand evening on the occasion of the annual dinner. I spoke to your correspondent, and I have no doubt he will send you a report. We have had some splendid salmon-fishing this last week. I have given him some notes. Fifteen fish taken at Shardlow yesterday, nine at one draw of the nets, which is a great shame, as Mr. Wood lets the fishing to anglers by ticket from 1½ guineas up to 5 guineas, and then nets them out under their very rods. The anglers are very indignant about such treatment, especially as Mr. Wood professes to be an angler himself.—I am, &c.,

NOTTINGHAMMER.

[Very “righteous indignation,” too, we should say.—Ed.]

TROUT STREAMS.

SIR,—In answer to inquirer, “Jersey,” I beg to state there are three trout streams near Weymouth—viz., Dorchester Association Water (by ticket), Upwey and Preston Waters (private), also plenty of sea fishing for rod and line—viz., pollock, bass, mackerel, &c. If “Jersey” would drop me a line I could give him full particulars. I would also state I keep the “Marston” trout-fly rod.

Whilst mackerel fishing yesterday, one mackerel caught weighed 2½ lb. and measured 17 inches.—I am, &c.,

HENRY R. HAYMAN.

Weymouth, May 15th.

SALMON IN TROUT STREAMS, &c.

SIR,—No subject discussed in these columns can be more interesting to the bulk of anglers than the above; but we draw so largely, and necessarily so, I think, upon your valuable space that I fear you will soon say, “Hold! it is enough.”

“Convince a man against his will,
He’s of the same opinion still.”

This is, I opine, Mr. Corry’s case. He is evidently anxious for the salmon. I have no personal interest in the matter whatever, but approach it merely as a truth-seeker. I am truly glad that Mr. Corry has grassed so many salmon in so short a time, and hope he may do it again, but not in the upper reaches of the Yore, to the further impoverishing of the trout fishing.

I have not the least doubt that if the way was open some few salmon would

at once avail themselves of the new road, to be followed each year by increasing numbers, but the stocking would be a work of time. I merely stated the ordinary rule; in fact, I used the word "probably." Mr. Corry assumes the exception; his amusing banter in no wise meets the arguments of the case. The query, "Have all salmon rivers a hatchery?" is so puerile, we leave it unanswered. It affects not the question at issue. The Thames was once a salmon river. Does anyone imagine that if the pollutions were removed that the stream would be at once restocked with this fish? The swallow yearly returns to her natal chimney-pot, and the nightingale to its home in the grove; so the salmon, led by a mysterious and unerring instinct, wends its way season after season to the identical stream in which it was spawned.

The riddle which Mr. Corry so sagely propounds as to the variation of fish in number and size in different, but often contiguous streams, permits of the easiest solution possible. It is in the main a matter of food supply. Some waters are so cold, and others again are so charged with sundry chemical properties, that many kinds of insect and vegetable life will not thrive therein. As a consequence, the fish are put upon short commons, and remain diminutive. How is it we nearly always find such poor trout on the grouse moors, and such fine ones beneath the waterwheels of the corn-mills? In the first case, they are half-starved; in the second, grubbed with meal worms and the refuse of the mill. Again, increase the number of mouths to be fed, and the fish diminish in size. Thin the fish, and you have larger ones. I know of some becks not many miles from Hawes which twenty years ago yielded passable fish. Now they are in the hands of gentlemen who preserve, and what is the result? Why, the fish are six or eight times as numerous, but hardly one-third the size, and where one formerly caught a dozen, fifty may now be caught in a shorter space.

In the time of Jackson, of Tanfield, the grayling was unknown above Aysgarth Falls. Its introduction, and in recent years its great increase, account for the falling off in the size and numbers of trout. The matter is simple enough, and yet forsooth Mr. Corry would introduce a "pestilence of smelts," to further share the provender of what is, after all, above the town of Hawes, little more than a respectable beck.

In years gone by my catches in the Yore were quite up to, if not beyond, Mr. Skidmore's present averages. This fact doubly confirms the theory above. My experience of the waters below Aysgarth tallies exactly with Mr. Skidmore's. I have flogged the waters all day in Lord Bolton's length for a brace or two of trout, despite the fact that Abedale, Bishopdale, and other becks have from season to season been pouring in legions of yearlings. It is simply the presence of other fish that makes the difference.

Again, if my theory needs thrice confirming, we have it in the results yielded by the Manor fishery. When I first started fish culture I paid but little attention to feeding my stock fish; they consequently grew but little—in fact, they were dark, half-starved, and lanky. Of late years they have been almost daily fed on horseflesh, beef, liver, and other substantial food, and what is the result? Why, marked fish have actually increased 2 lb. or more in weight in a single year, and I fancy if Mr. Corry had some of them at the end of his line they would give nearly as good an account of themselves as the salmon he is so anxious to catch. If Mr. Corry will take the trouble to fish that beck below the Butterlube, where the trout are unusually numerous and small, and mark a few of them, then send them on to me, I will guarantee, by judicious feeding, to make such fish of them in a year or two that he shall hardly know them again.

Furthermore, Mr. Corry's condemnation is fourfold, and comes from himself. He fishes the Eden, Lune, Petherel, and Calder, and in these waters invariably catches larger fish than in the Yore. The Eden is, I think, the only one of these streams that contains grayling, and there they are, if I mistake not, very rare indeed.

It is true we may in some of the streams of Ireland find good salmon and good trout, and in some of the southern rivers of England good salmon, good trout, and good grayling; but if the matter is properly investigated, it will be noted that these waters are larger and more food-producing than the waters of the Yore and its sister streams. Hawes has, I think, an elevation of nearly 600 feet above the sea level, which makes the average temperature as low as the south of Scotland. Again, the rivers of Ireland which have the best trout are, as a rule, merely connecting links between large lakes, whilst in the south of England the rivers generally run over chalk formations, which always yield a larger quantity of food than the limestones and granites of England and Scotland.

But some of my readers may say, "Would you, then, get rid of the grayling as well as keep out the salmon?" By no means. To my friends in Wensleydale I would say, "Be content with what you have. Seek not questionable advantages. Remember the old adage, 'Grasp all, lose all.'"

This subject is so wide a one that it would be easy to fill a number of the GAZETTE thereon—but I forbear; nothing but a sense of duty at such a busy time would have induced me to occupy so much room.

In conclusion, I may say, that though I conscientiously differ from Mr. Corry, I regard him as a good friend, whose contributions to this paper are amongst the first I read.—I am, &c.,

Manor Fishery, Caister.

THOMAS FORD.

THE AIR BLADDER IN FISH.

SIR,—After all that has been said upon this subject, I scarcely feel justified in referring to it again; but I cannot allow the good-natured remarks of "J. C., Esq.," to pass without offering a few observations.

Since the experiment upon the carp by a certain celebrated person, I certainly was under the impression it was quite impossible for a fish to rise to the surface after the air bladder had burst; but since this has been disproved by your correspondent, it can no longer be doubted.

"J. C., Esq.," must have noticed the marvellous rapidity with which bait have descended when thrown into a tank occupied by jack, hoping to escape observation. Terrible fright impelled them on in their quick descent, and, in my opinion, if their bladders had been disended like balloons in these instances they would have gone down just as quickly. In all cases where the ducts are closed, there can be but one way in which fish can lessen the bulk of their air bladders, and that is by compression. Of course, this compression must vary according to circumstances. The pressure on the fish at 32 feet is double what it is at the surface, and, consequently, the pressure on the bladder must be in proportion to the depth at which the fish is. We now come to balance under peculiar circumstances, and I should certainly like to hear a few opinions on this subject.

I will try and explain. A fish weighing 8 lb. during the breeding process gradually increases in weight up to the time of spawning until it reaches, say, 10 lb. Now, what I want to know is, in what way is this tremendous addition to its weight compensated, unless the bladder increases in the same proportion? Dr. Günther has told us that in many cases ducts cease to exist after a

certain age. In fact, after the bladder has assumed certain proportions the ducts close up, and only a fine ligature remains. This is a fact not to be contradicted. When thus closed, how can the bladder take in and give off air as stated by the philosophers? Very good. Then the philosophers must be wrong. As was poor "Goldy," in his "Animated Nature," where he either says, or makes somebody else say, the eel and freshwater gudgeon have no air bladders, I was wrong in a former letter, for both have air bladders—the gudgeon a little beau y. Some anglers think because fish gravel and grub on the bottom they possess no air bladder, and cannot rise. Never was a greater mistake made. I need only instance that handsome fish, the barbel, which can turn, and twist, and flash, and shoot about in the most seal-like manner, and, when much pestered with parasites, "pick" clean out of the water. In the profound stillness of an early summer's morning, when seated beside "the smug and silver Trent," intently eyeing my "grey goose quill," I have been startled on many occasions by barbel thus "picking." What about the air bladder then? Rising and rising 10 or 12 feet, with an addition of quite another 24 inches in the air, to say nothing of the tremendous exertion consequent on the leap, is it not your opinion, Mr. Editor, that, in these cases, if the pressure were not taken off the bladder, it would explode? And if the pressure were not taken off, how could it rise? I repeat, how could it rise? In answer to "J. C., Esq.'s" last suggestion, Dr. Günther says, "The gas contained in the air-bladder consists of nitrogen, with a very small quantity of oxygen, and a trace of carbonic acid; in sea fishes, especially those living at some depth, oxygen predominates, as much as 87 per cent. having been found. Davy found in the air-bladder of a fresh-run salmon a trace of carbonic acid and 10 per cent. of oxygen, the remainder of the gas being nitrogen. Thanking "J. C. Esq.," for his very kind communication—I am, &c.,

MARK ANTONY.

P.S.—I see, in the *St. James's Gazette* of May 5, 1884, the following:—"M. Regnard has been making some experiments on the influence of high pressure on living organisms. They are particularly striking (*Science Gossip* observes), as bearing on the pressure which sea-water must exercise at great depths of the ocean. Infusoria, leeches and mollusca, were rendered insensible at a pressure of 600 atmospheres, but recovered when the pressure was removed; fishes possessed of swimming bladders resisted 100 atmospheres, but became insensible at 200, and died at 300 atmospheres."—M. A.

GRAYLING TAKING MINNOWS.

SIR,—Some time ago a correspondence appeared in the columns of the GAZETTE discussing the question of whether a grayling would take a minnow. To set the matter at rest, and to prove that a grayling will, I was out a few days ago spinning the dead natural minnow for trout, and had succeeded in taking a brace of nice fish. Previous to returning home I fished a bit of very rough deep water, and had the fortune or rather the misfortune, to hook a grayling, the weight of which would be, as near as guessing goes, 1 lb. It took the minnow well, and fought hard—better than the trout. I got it out and unhooked it carefully as I could, and then returned it to the water, being close time. The fish was in splendid condition; water clear; cold wind east, and cloudy.—I am, &c.,

SPINNER.

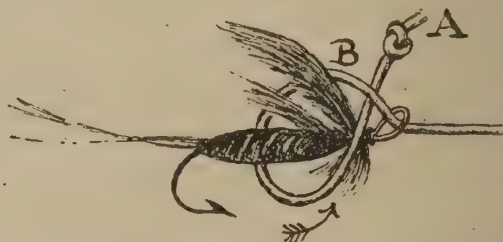
[The above, and many other similar instances, prove that grayling will now and then take the minnow when it is spun slowly near them. But they do not feed on natural minnows like trout.—ED.]

THE TYING OF EYED FLIES.

SIR,—Referring to the sketch given in your issue of the 3rd inst., do you not think that the knot of which I annex a sketch is more simple? I have always used it for tying salmon flies, and so I presume do nine-tenths of salmon fishers. But doubtless those whose experience has been confined to trouting may not be aware of the same; and, as I presume that the eyed trout fly is likely to come into tolerably extensive use, it may be of service.—I am, &c.,

GEORGE JAMES.

London, May 5.



P.S.—Hold the hook point downwards, pass the end of the gut through the eye from below, tie a single knot at the end, A, which pass over the fly, bring it up underneath and pass underneath the gut at B, and draw tight.

NOTES ON EYED-HOOKS, SHY TROUT, &c.

SIR,—I have recently noticed two letters in the GAZETTE about tying eyed-hooks to gut. The first one was little more than a reproduction of directions I gave (by request) in the GAZETTE of April 8th, 1882. For two years previous to this I was constantly getting letters of inquiry about the best way of tying gut to the eye; so, to avoid trouble, I carefully sketched the diagram which has twice appeared in the GAZETTE, appended a brief description of the knot, and sent it in turn to all querists on the subject. But I never described the knot as "my method" as if I had discovered it, the truth being that it is nothing more than a very old knot, well known in salmon fishing, and I believe I saw it used in Scotland nearly twenty years ago. I have long known that there are several other good ways of tying the eyed-hook to gut. They are not easy to describe on paper, but I think any ingenious person could puzzle out a satisfactory knot for himself. Because I have been requested to publish the method I generally employ, and have done so, the diagrams have been referred to as "Mr. Hall's fastening" several times; but I wish it to be distinctly understood that I never claimed to have invented this knot, and I am not prepared to say it is the best. I am not sure that I understand Major Turle's knot, as described in last the GAZETTE of May 2, and I certainly don't recognise it as the same knot I have seen him use when I have been fishing with him. Only a few days ago I saw a man at Winchester Station with a lot of flies tied by what he called Major Turle's knot. I told him then that I thought he must be mistaken, for the gut came from the tip of the turned-up eye instead of coming out (as it should do, whatever method is used) from underneath the eye, and in a direct line with the shank. The one desideratum is that it should be quite impossible for the gut ever to slip so as to stand at right-angles to the shank of the hook. Some day

I will try and collect the different methods I have seen in use, and if I can make the verbal descriptions clear enough, the readers of the GAZETTE may be glad to have them.

The queries of Mr. Gribble, on April 26th, I did not quite comprehend, and, as I was fishing at the time, I read the paper quickly, without thinking there was anything to answer. As far as I remember, one of his questions has been sufficiently answered on April 12th and May 3rd. With reference to a vice for fly making, I don't know anything better than that supplied by Mr. R. D. Frost, Messrs. O'Handlen and Co., Victoria Street, Bristol. I have recommended it to many friends, and they have always been satisfied. If Mr. Gribble will write a letter, to be forwarded to me through the GAZETTE office, I shall be pleased to do my best to answer his other questions.

Now in reply to your correspondent "F. R. C. S.," and his queries. He, like many other readers of the GAZETTE, gives me credit in matters relating to chalk stream fishing for far more skill and knowledge than I have any claim to, and I really do not feel competent to offer an opinion, or suggest anything that "F. R. C. S." is not likely to know far better than I do myself. I have just returned from fishing in Hampshire, where I had one day on the Anton, three on the Test, and five on the Itchen, and I never saw fish more particular nor so shy at this time of year. On the Anton, when the rise came on I killed two brace very quickly, then rose fish after fish without being able to hook them, and though I rose at least six or seven brace, I only got two more small ones, and before evening the short-rising fish helped me to develop a nervous, hurried strike, which I did not get rid of for a day or two. On the Test, on April 23rd, I got nothing but small grayling; on the 24th I got a brace of trout, 1 lb. 2 oz. on the Grannom quite early in the day, and then never touched another, though I had some good fun with nine grayling (some of them big ones), which, of course, had to go back. It was the universal complaint that the trout were taking larvæ while the grayling were taking flies. On the Itchen, the olive dun was in force nearly every day, but the fish took only one fly in every twenty that came over them, and sometimes rose quite falsely at the natural. My last day, April 30th, looked as if big things were going to be done. When the rise began I hooked and lost one fish, turned over two others, and rose two or three more in a half-hearted way. Then not a fish would look at anything I could offer. They let a dozen flies go untouched and put their noses up once in five minutes, and this went on nearly all day. At last I found one fish rising in earnest, and in the exact spot where the previous day I had killed a fish quite easily with the first fly that floated properly over him. I fully expected to kill his successor without difficulty; but though I tried the choicest of olives, hare's ears, and quills, both dark and light, I could get no response. After an hour and a half of fruitless whipping, I bethought me of a very small "Flight's Fancy." I put it on, and killed the fish with the very first cast. This description does not answer your correspondent's question, but I give it to show that the experience of others in Hampshire this season is not more satisfactory than his own. The extraordinary weather must be held responsible in some measure, I think, and I sincerely trust the fish are not on the strike universally.

I have never yet discovered how to treat fish which are on larvæ. I gave my opinion on this point in my second article on "Chalk Streams" last year (March 17th, 1883), and I there stated that I believed a "Wickham" was the best all round fly for a "bu'ging fish." But I don't use a sinker, and I hardly consider it fly-fishing to do so when the fish are feeding. Still, I must plead guilty to a very occasional use of a sunk-fly, with a shot at the head, in a hatch hole when there is no rise of fly, and when I am tired of rambling aimlessly in search of feeding fish.—I am, &c.,

H. S. HALL.

P.S.—I may add that Mr. Frost (to whom I have alluded above) can supply many other requisites for fly-making besides the vice. I have at times got some excellent feathers from him.

[The little machine is a capital one; we shall notice it elsewhere.—Ed]

WYE FISHERY DISTRICT.

At the annual meeting of the conservators of this district, held at Hereford, on Saturday, the Duke of Beaufort was re-appointed chairman, and the following motion, in the interest of anglers, was unanimously agreed to—with one exception—"That the annual close season, for all modes of fishing for salmon, except with rod and line, putts, and putchers, shall commence on the 1st September, and terminate on 1st February following, both days inclusive. And as regards fishing with rod and line, the annual close season for rods for all parts of the Wye Fishery District shall commence on the 2nd November in each year, and terminate on the 1st February following, both days inclusive." The close season for rod and line has formerly ended on the 14th March.

BIRTH.—On the 11th of May, at Cavan Villa, Whitehorse Road, Croydon, the wife of R. B. Marston of a son.

HEREFORD AND GLOUCESTER CANAL.—ILLEGAL FISHING.—Samuel Bridges, of Hereford, was charged on Friday before C. Hewitt, H. Baillie, and Captain Archdale, at Ledbury, with taking fish (perch, roach, and pike) out of season from the Hereford and Gloucester Canal. Mr. S. Mutlow defended Bridges. Mary Edwards, of Ashperton, deposed that on the 10th of April she saw defendant at the Canon Froome Wharf, along with others, netting; he was some distance from the other men. Joseph Berry, Canon Froome Wharf house, said that on the 10th of April as he was going home he met four men and a boy with a net. Defendant was about 300 yards off. He asked them what business they had there, and they referred him to their master, the defendant. He told defendant that he had no business there. He, however, said he (witness) had given him leave to go there, but witness said he had only given him permission to fish with a rod and line some two years ago, and that he should summon them. P.C. Thomas deposed that on serving defendant with the summons he said he only took a few pike, and no perch or roach. Mr. Mutlow contended that the case had not been proved against Bridges, that he was not seen fishing, nor was it shown that he was connected with the other men who were netting. The Bench took a contrary view, and fined defendant £2.

Thornhill's Ten-Guinea Silver-Fitted Ladies' Travelling Dressing Bag. (No. 68.)
14-inch Best Polished Morocco Patent Wide-opening Travelling Dressing Bag, with one Outside Pocket, Stitched Handle, with Gilt Rings and Plates, Gilt Double action Registered Lock, and Thornhill's Improved Patent Stop-hinges; Bag lined with rich Moiré Antique Silk, with Thornhill's Improved Indestructible Pockets.

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"We want nothing better than his finest, on which we have this season killed a 2 lb. trout, a 2 lb. tench, a 2 lb. eel, and a 4 lb. pike, and that, too, on a stiff rod. In fact, with fair play, it will take any average trout that will take a fly out of the May-fly season."—FISHING GAZETTE Notice, September 18, 1883.

See also notices in the FISHING GAZETTE for Dec. 17, 1883; June 28, 1882; July 1, 1882; and March 8th, 1884.

LINES.—Gut, 3 yards, 3d., 4d., and 6d., Tapered to Gossamer gut, 8d. each; Hair, 3 yards, 3d. and 4d.; Salmon Gut Lines, 3 yards, 8d. to 1s. 9d., twisted do., 1s. 6d.; Silk and Hair Fly Lines, 1d. per yard; good gut, 12in., 1s. per hank, about 100 strips; 14in. 1s. 6d.; Gossamer gut, 12in. 3s. 6d.; 14in. 4s. 6d.

HOOKS.—Crystal, and all other Hooks on Best Gut or Hair, 6d. doz.; on Gossamer Gut to Match Lines, 8d. per doz.

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RODS.—Fly rods, 4 joints, 12 feet, 7s. 6d.; do. hollow butt, two tops, 9s. 6d.; 11s. 6d. and 13s. 6d.
WINCHES.—Brass winch, 2 1/2 in., 1s. 6d.; bronze check, 2 1/2 in. 3s. 6d., 3 in. 5s.; bronze best make Salmon or Trout reel, 2 1/2 in. 3s. 6d., 3 in. 7s. 6d., 3 1/2 in. 9s. 6d., 4 in. 12s. 6d.
Postage extra on all orders.

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ROYAL AQUARIUM.—This day.—MONSTER PROGRAMME.—Wilson's Novelties from India; the Royal Tusker Hunting Leviathan Elephant Viceroy, the Comical Dwarf Performing Elephant, the Australian Jumping Horses, and the Magnificent Den of Performing African Lions; Organ Recitals, Stokes on Memory, Professor Beckwith's Natatorial Entertainments, Professor Field and the Magic Transformation Mirrors, the Pooles, Ida, Est, and Frank Vollier, Frank Travis, the Castro Brothers, Marie Gilchrist, Fleury, and Paul Martinetti Troupe in the "Midnight Serenade," Grand Promenade Concerts. Admission 1s.

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"This most useful little work gives very clear instructions in the beautiful art of artificial fly-making, as well as much other practical matter, by a master hand both at fly-tying and fish catching."—FISHING GAZETTE.

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OVA SALMO FARIO	20s. to 40s. per 1000
" LEVENENSIS	do. " do.
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WILLIAM J. VIAN, Secretary.

NOTICE.

Communications relating to the Literary Department, Fishing Tackle for Notice, Books for Review, &c., must be addressed to the Editor of the FISHING GAZETTE, No. 12, Fetter Lane, London, E.C.

Contributions are solicited, but the Editor will not undertake to return rejected MSS. unless accompanied with a stamped addressed envelope.

Correspondents are requested to write on one side of the paper only, and give their real names and addresses, not necessarily as signatures to their letters, but as a guarantee of good faith. Unless this rule be adhered to, no notice will be taken of such communications.

THE FISHING GAZETTE is published every Saturday, and can be obtained at Messrs. W. H. Smith and Son's Railway Bookstalls, and of the principal Newsagents and Fishing Tackle Dealers in London and the Provinces.

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The Annual Subscription, payable in advance, for the United Kingdom is 8s.; or postage, 10s. 6d.

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N.B.—All Remittances must be sent, and all Cheques and Money Orders must be made payable to Messrs. SAMPSON LOW, MARSTON, AND CO., the Proprietors.

The Fishing Gazette.

SATURDAY, MAY 24, 1884.

BALLINAHINCH, CO. GALWAY.

PRESUMING the visitor makes Roundstone his headquarters, being the centre for sport and sea and trout-fishing (free), there is a large chain of lakes many miles in extent, on which white and brown trout fishing can be had gratis within less than an hour's walk of the hotel. The principal loughs, Bolara and Wheelin, contain excellent fish. They are situated on the west side of Enisbeg Hill, where a most magnificent view of the surrounding country for miles in extent can be had, and on very clear days the Brandon Hills of Kerry can be seen. Roundstone is situated on the celebrated Bertraghboy Bay, which is remarkable for excellent mackerel and pollock-fishing, and within a distance of five miles of the Skira Rocks, which is noted for being the haunts for different species of seals, which afford capital sport. The celebrated salmon fishery of Ballinahinch is within a distance of three miles. Visitors staying at the Roundstone Hotel can fish on the waters. The tariff is as follows:—10s. per day, or £2 10s. per week. Mr. Blackadder, the head-keeper at Ballinahinch, will supply every information. South of Roundstone very good fishing can be procured at the Doohiella Salmon and White Trout Fishery, and the tariff is 5s. per day. Wm. Young, Esq., Brackey Park, is the lessee of this fishery. Mr. Kelly, of the hotel, will afford information. The angler can retain all fish caught at all the fisheries. Summer fish (peal) go up in vast numbers during the months of May and June, so that the angler can enjoy grand sport until the end of the season (31st October). About the end of June white trout run in all the Connemara fisheries. The Gowla Fishery (Mr. Blackadder head keeper) is remarkable as being, perhaps, the best white trout fishery in the United Kingdom, a single rod not unfrequently taking four dozen in one day; terms same as Ballinahinch.

THE NEW LIST OF CLUBS IN THE WEST CENTRAL ASSOCIATION.

MR. H. J. TIBBATS, of 46, Bishopsgate Street Without, E.C., the hon. sec. of the Association, has just issued the new list of the clubs enrolled with the Association. Mr. T. has spared no pains to make it as perfect as possible, and it must have been no easy task, for we know well how difficult it is to get information of this kind.

ENLARGEMENT OF THE "FISHING GAZETTE."

WE have much pleasure in informing our readers that on July 5 next the GAZETTE will be considerably enlarged, and printed from entirely new type. This will necessitate the binding up of the numbers for 1884 in two half-yearly volumes. There will be no increase in the price of the paper.

Any of our readers who will send us the names and addresses of anglers who do not take the GAZETTE, in order that we may send them a copy of the July 5 number, will materially assist us.

It would also be a great help if our friends who may have influence with advertisers will get them to try the GAZETTE. Increased receipts will enable us to still further improve the paper.

SALMON FISHING IN THE TRENT.

A CORRESPONDENT at Tamworth wrote last week as follows:—"Please say in your 'Answers to Correspondents' if salmon take a fly on the Trent at Shardlow, and what is the best mode of fishing for them there." We felt pretty certain that the Trent salmon were not taken with the fly, but to make sure wrote to an old subscriber in Nottingham, who very kindly replies as below. If we are not mistaken, the salmon in the Test at one time would not take the fly, but were educated to it by persistent fly-fishing:—

"DEAR SIR,

"I just received yours on the point of leaving business. In answer, I may say that no salmon have ever been known to have been taken in the Trent with a fly. I tried only on my last outing, and have known several other expert hands who kill a lot in Scotland and Norway, but the experiment on the Trent has met with no success. The best baits are the lob or dew worm, and the artificial spinner, which latter is specially made by Mr. John Theaker, fishing tackle maker, Canal Street, Nottingham. Theaker knows the requirements of the Trent to a nicety.

"There are no day tickets, but those for the season can be obtained now for Shardlow for £1 1s., including Shardlow and Wiston, from that sum up to five guineas; but the best salmon fishing is at Shardlow, £1 1s., which can be obtained through Mr. Theaker, or through Mr. Thos. Wood, the lessee.

"There were two gentlemen fishing this last week, from the top end of Yorkshire, who brought a stock of flies, but found them no good in the Trent.

"You will be pleased to hear that I have been successful in killing a fine fish of 23½ lb. with a single gut and worm, and my friend killed one 16 lb., in the neighbourhood of Willington.—I am, &c., S. SILLS."

THE "MARSTON" FLY-ROD.

WE are asked to add to names of firms who are keeping in stock the "Marston" rod, Mr. James Ogden, 28, Winchcomb Street, Cheltenham; Mr. S. Bigg, 27, Russell Street, Covent Garden, London; Mr. W. Bleakley, 93, Newport Street, Bolton.

NOTICES OF FLIES, &c.

J. OGDEN'S MAY-FLIES, &c.

By an oversight the name of Mr. James Ogden, 28, Winchcomb Street, Cheltenham, was omitted from the list of firms keeping the "Marston" rod. He writes to ask us to put it in.

The biggest trout of the year are undoubtedly caught during the May-fly season, either with the natural fly—which is rank poaching—or with the delicate imitations made of feather and steel.

Mr. James Ogden, of 28, Winchcomb Street, Cheltenham, has sent us eight or nine different dressings of the May-fly. He says he could send many other dressings, but these are the best killers. They are all really beautifully made.

No. 1 is a grey drake, with smooth straw-coloured body, ribbed with gold twist, crimson silk, and run over with a ginger hackle.

No. 2 is a grey drake, with yellow wool body, and brown worsted tag.

No. 3 is a grey drake, with gold twist and crimson silk body (wound over alternately), and over these is fastened a bit of fine, transparent quill. This has a very good effect.

No. 4 is a grey drake, with a lively black-red hackle wound over a juicy-looking, dirty-yellow body. This is a most excellent pattern.

No. 5 is a real grey drake, with very pretty plain mallard wings, straw body, with silver twist, and a hackle with light points and dark butt, not unlike badger hair.

Nos. 6 and 7 are very pretty green drakes, with red or rusty ginger hackles over light yellow cork or wool or quill bodies.

We have every confidence—from experience in previous years—in recommending Mr. Ogden's May-flies. Good workmanship and material can be relied on. They will be the death of many a lusty Hampshire and Gloucestershire trout before many days are past.

He has also a little green-bodied dun, plain and ribbed, which we can recommend to all who may have the fortune to try conclusions with trout in a quiet stream, where the duns come slowly down on the surface, and the trout know what's what.

OGDEN'S REGISTERED PREMIER SPINNER.

"This bait is constructed upon an entirely new and improved principle—the

spinning powers being given by three fans at the tail, which supersedes all principles in spinning or propelling powers. The absence of obstructive shoulder fans leaves the side hooks free. These hooks being eyed are held by a revolving metal pin passing through an internal swivel. The treble hook at the tail is carried clear of the fans by means of a centre metal pin. This bait is rendered indestructible by the fact that no silk or other whipping is used in its mounting. The weight of this bait is also a great advantage.

"It is made in three sizes—viz., salmon or pike, 6s. 6d.; trout, 5s.; smaller ditto, 3s. 6d., silver or gilt, or natural minnow colour."

We are not surprised to hear that this beautiful bait is having an enormous sale.

Mr. A. J. Skinner writes from Bettws-y-Coed, North Wales:—

"DEAR SIR,—

"Since I arrived here, and at streams on the Cotswold Hills, I have been using the Premier spinning minnow with much success. I am delighted with it, and can strongly recommend my brother anglers to try the same, which for strength and simplicity of construction, spinning powers, weight, &c., is certainly superior to anything I have hitherto used."

Another gentleman writes:—"Mr. Ogden's Premier is the best minnow I ever used. I have to-day killed fifteen trout in less than an hour." Mr. Ogden has sold nearly two thousand of them since March 1, and can show hundreds of letters speaking in the highest terms of its execution. We predict nothing but praise, and no vote of censure on this "Premier."

CLUB AND OTHER JOTTINGS.

By L. B.

THE usual monthly meeting of the West Central Association of London and Provincial Angling Societies took place at the Portman Arms Tavern, Great Quebec Street, Baker Street, on Friday Evening, May 10th, the president, Mr. P. Geen, in the chair, faced, in the vice, by Mr. W. Beckett.

After the reading and confirming of the minutes of the previous meeting, Mr. R. Murphy introduced the subject of the "District Visiting List," which had previously been carefully considered by the working committee of the association—who recommended that the visits in connection with the association be continued; that all such clubs enrolled as chose to visit and be visited should be divided into three districts, to each of which an officer directly representing the Association should be attached.

The suggestion of the committee was, after some discussion, unanimously adopted, the following gentlemen being elected for the offices:—Proposed by Mr. Murphy, seconded by Mr. Farebrother, Mr. Custell for No. 1 (Western) District; proposed by Mr. Holmes, seconded by Mr. Davy, Mr. Thorling for No. 2 (Eastern) District; proposed by Mr. Hotham, seconded by Mr. Welch, Mr. Page for No. 3 (South-Eastern) District—each of these gentlemen in turn expressing their intention to do all in their power to promote the success of the visits in the districts under their care.

It was further proposed by Mr. Murphy, seconded by Mr. Dean, "That the District officers receive the sum of 2s. for each visit to defray their personal expenses in connection with same," which was unanimously carried.

The Secretary then read the following:—"At a meeting of the Westbourne Park Piscatorial Society, held on the 15th inst., it was proposed and carried that the delegates, Messrs. Adeane and Buttery, be instructed to lay before the West Central Association of London and Provincial Angling Societies the desirability of passing a law to the effect that in cases of members misusing their privilege tickets, they be deprived of same, and never have one issued them again."

Mr. Adeane spoke at some length in support of the resolution passed by his society; several other gentlemen also addressing the meeting; finally, it was agreed "That the further consideration of the matter should be referred to the committee."

A letter from Mr. Thomas Crumplen was then read, referring to the controversy in the papers *re* Cheap Anglers' Tickets. Mr. C. regretted that, owing to "a family event," he would be prevented from attending the meeting of the association, as he had intended doing. Further, Mr. Crumplen expressed his opinion that he should, under the circumstances, have received a special invitation to attend.

It was pointed out that Mr. Crumplen, as representing a society enrolled with the association, had a perfect right to come up without any special invitation; yet, as he seemed to lay stress on the point, and, so as to meet his wishes, it was proposed by Mr. Hotham, seconded by Mr. Page, and unanimously carried, "That Mr. Crumplen be invited to attend the next general meeting of the West Central Association, and that the secretary write him accordingly."

Some animated conversation then took place about the scan-

dalous resolution passed at a recent meeting of the Amicable Brothers respecting Mr. Geen and the railway concessions, which our Editor referred to and condemned in language not a whit too strong. General indignation was expressed that any body of anglers should have been found to adopt such a course. It, however, had one good result, for it gave Mr. Geen evident proof of the esteem in which he is held—as not only was the room unanimous in expressing its confidence in him, but many of the societies had sent in, through their secretaries, votes of confidence in Mr. Geen, and of the great and lasting gratitude they felt for the services he had rendered the cause of angling generally and the support he had ever afforded the poorest of his piscatorial brethren in particular. The secretary (Mr. Tibbatts) and Mr. Geen had received something like thirty such communications, not only from London clubs, but from societies in the Trent district and other parts of the provinces; while a number of others were read in the room by delegates who had been empowered to bring them up from their societies.

Mr. Geen, whose rising was the signal for a storm of cheering, said that as his conduct had been grossly misrepresented by a few persons, it would be as well for him, to prevent any misapprehension, to take the meeting into his confidence, and go in detail through every step he had taken with reference to the railway concessions and the anglers. For this purpose, he would ask to be allowed to read copies of the whole of the correspondence between the South Western Railway and himself, which he did; also detailing the course of action he had adopted with the authorities of the Great Western Railway, and reading several letters. After Mr. Geen had concluded, Mr. Manning addressed the meeting. He said he was glad to have heard Mr. Geen's statement, which would, no doubt, clear away from other minds besides his own many false impressions. Mr. Manning then spoke at great length about the formation of the Associations, their past history, and, finally, their future. He trusted they would soon be able to bring about, in a fair and amicable manner, that amalgamation of the Association which at heart was really most earnestly wished for by the great bulk of the London anglers, and which would be so much to their benefit; Mr. Theobald following, his remarks being much in the same strain.

Mr. Bonvoisin said he had listened with great pleasure to the remarks of the last two speakers, and their admission that the unification of the London Angling Associations would be beneficial. Mr. Manning represented the United London Anglers' Central Committee at this meeting, as did also Mr. Theobald (the last-named gentleman being also affiliated to the Central Association, though he did not officially represent that body this evening.) He would like to practically follow up their remarks by proposing that "Two gentlemen with the chairman be appointed to meet an equal number from the Central Committee and Central Association with a view to the formation of one association." The proposition being duly carried, Messrs. Beckett and Tibbatts were elected, together with the chairman, to undertake the delicate and responsible duties connected with this task.

The roll was then called by the secretary, Mr. Tibbatts, the following thirty-two societies answering to their names:—Amicable Brothers, Anglers' Pride, Acton Piscatorial, Bostonian, Battersea Friendly, Bloomsbury Brothers, Beresford, City of London, Cambridge Friendly, Duke of Norfolk, Excelsior, Golden Barbel, Good Intent, Globe, Hammersmith United, Hampstead, Independent Jovial, Norfolk, North-Western, Prince of Wales, Portsmouth Waltonians, Peckham Brothers, Princess of Wales, Queen's, Royal George, Rodney, St. John's, South-Eastern, The Piscatorial, Waltonians, Westbourne Park, Wellington, and Messrs. Manning and Theobald from the United London Anglers' Central Committee.

Upon a proposition by Mr. Adeane, seconded by Mr. Welch, "That this annual meeting be further adjourned till the next monthly night for the purpose of electing a trustee to the West-Central Association and a committeeman to the Anglers' Benevolent Society," the usual vote of thanks to the chair and vice brought the meeting to a close.

THE GREAT EASTERN RAILWAY AND THE WHITSUNTIDE HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS.

WE can advise our readers who want to know how to spend the Whitsun Holidays to study the programme just issued by the above company, giving particulars of the special facilities offered for obtaining tickets at City and West End Booking Offices and the Liverpool Street Station. Also as to the additional trains to be run for the Whitsun Holidays.

PIETSCH'S £3 MOVEABLE SALMON LADDER.

FOR USE AT HIGH WEIRS IN DRY SEASONS.

IN a recent account of salmon fishing in Scotland I referred to the dams on the river Don in Aberdeenshire as preventing the ascent of salmon except in high waters. Being of opinion that there is often not much good done by merely describing a disease unless you can also suggest a remedy, I said if any of my Aberdeenshire readers desired it I would give some account of the MacDonald Fishway. Several gentlemen asked me to do so. Now the only objection that I could think of as likely to be raised against the MacDonald pass was its expense, which would probably be very high. But in the German *Fischerei-Zeitung* of April 22nd I find an account of a moveable ladder invented by Herr Anton Pietsch, Forest-officer of Kurczyn, in Hungary. This ladder is fully described in the German gazette by Dr. M. Nowicki, of Krakow, and it seems to me to be in every way so well worthy of trial in this country that I have translated the article, and obtained the explanatory illustration from the Editor of the *Fischerei-Zeitung*.

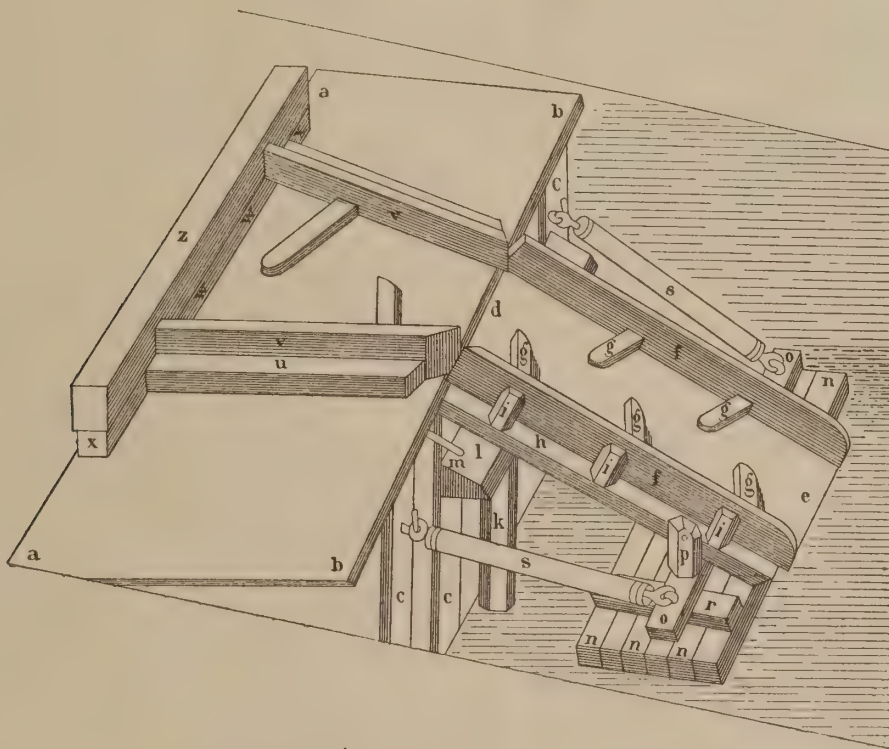
Dr. Nowicki says:—

“At Kurczyn, on the river Poprad, in Hungary, there is a high weir which prevents the salmon getting up to the spawning ground, and has caused a falling off in the number of salmon.

“It was therefore decided in connection with the attempt which was being made at the time to increase the salmon in the Weichsel district, to open up the Poprad river again to salmon. Count William Migazzy, President of the Upper Hungarian Fisheries Society, and to whom the improvement in Hungarian fisheries owes

that of the floor of the ladder. The ladder rests on strong beams (h) and is kept in its place by several small posts (i) which are let into the beams. Its upper end is supported by the woodwork (k l), and the lower by the float or platform (n). The woodwork (k l) close to the front of the dam (c) is lower than the dam edge, and consists of the two piles (k) and the supporting beam (l) mortised on to them. The beam is fastened to weir by strong iron clamps (m) (1 in. square), which go through it, and are secured by nuts on screw ends underneath. On this support (l) the upper end of the ladder rests free, so that its floor is level with the top of the weir and just touching it, while the sides of the ladder are higher, so that the water can flow down between them. The ends of the sides (f f), where they meet the ends of the guides (v v), are cut at angles (see illustration) to permit of the ladder working in its place, as the platform rises or falls. The small space between the ladder (d) and the edge of the dam (b) can be covered by a board nailed to the dam if it was necessary to prevent any water falling through.

“The platform (n) floats on the surface of the water, and is held fast by the two bars (s s) which are fastened to hooks in the weir and platform. The platform is formed of several 8 in. to 9 in. logs of well-seasoned wood (n). These are fastened together by the stout piece (r), on which rests the cross-beam (o), the ladder being kept in place by nails in the supports (p), which act as axles on which it works. The end of the ladder (e) projects beyond the platform, and touches the surface of the pool, or dips into it a little, according to the amount of water flowing over the ladder. It will be seen that, as the water rises or falls, the platform rises or falls with it. In a small water the platform rests motionless; but in a heavy water, forming waves under the weir, it shakes.



PIETSCH'S MOVEABLE SALMON LADDER.

so much, took steps to provide the weir with a salmon ladder at his own expense.

“The construction of the ladder was entrusted to the Forest-officer at Kurczyn, Mr. Anton Pietsch, who carried it out in a most creditable manner, inasmuch as at very small cost he made a wooden *moveable* ladder, which he attaches to the weir every year in the autumn. The idea was, at any rate, an original one as compared with the multiplicity of kinds of fixed ladders of massive build—those in use in Great Britain, for example. This ladder answers admirably in practice, and met with entire approbation from the members of the Fish-breeders' Conference which was held at Dresden last year. It may therefore claim to be somewhat particularly described here and brought under more general notice, especially as Herr Pietsch has had the great kindness to supply for this purpose the accompanying design and also give instructions in the use of the ladder.

“The wooden weir (a b c) occupies the whole width of the river—about one hundred and twenty-five yards. Its face (c) rises perpendicularly to a height of over three yards in a low water, so that except in a high flood the difference of level between the water below the dam and that above is too great for salmon to overcome, and for just this reason the use of a ladder is imperative. The broad dam head (a b), with gentle slope, is boarded horizontally; its ridge (a) is horizontal lengthways, and without crown. Below the dam are several deep pools, in which the salmon lie, and it is over one of these just below the weir that the fish pass is placed.

“The ladder (d e) has parallel sides (f), and a level bottom (d e) is made of strong 2½ in. planks, 16 ft. 4 in. long, 3 ft. 6 in. wide. The blocks (g) are placed widely apart to allow room for large salmon to move about between them easily. The height of these blocks corresponds with the depth of water required for salmon, and the fall is

“The converging guards (v v) are for the purpose of directing the water which comes in at (w) under the beam (z) on to the ladder. They are about 12 in. in height, and provided with two blocks like those in the ladder (g) to break the force of the water, and enable the fish to get over. The object of the beam (z) is to control the amount of water passing into the ladder at (w) (the height of this opening being only about 6½ in.), and prevent too much water flowing over. In spring and summer high waters prevail in the Poprad, enabling the salmon to get over the high dam; but in autumn there is generally a low water, and the ladder is necessary in September, October, and November.

“A flood does not injure the ladder at all, but the winter's ice would tear it away; so, as it is easily taken down, it is then taken away, and put so that the platform gets dried well by the sun. The woodwork, (k l) is left in its place as being out of danger from ice.

“The construction of the ladder, including wood, iron, and labour, costs only £3 at Kurczyn, and the cost of removal and replacing, with any necessary repairs, about 12s. or 14s. The ladder has only been used two autumns, and Herr Pietsch has often had opportunities of seeing salmon ascending it without difficulty. Before it was put up he had frequently noticed numbers of salmon collected in the pools below the dam, and making vain efforts to get over it, and at last getting caught by the fishermen. But since the ladder has been in use the salmon are rarely seen waiting in this way, as it enables them to get up at once. Models of this ladder are in possession of the Galician Fisheries Society, the Austrian Fisheries Society in Vienna, and the German Fisheries Society in Berlin, and drawings of it have been sent to England and America. As a moveable and cheap salmon ladder, it seems preferable to the costly fixed affairs. With the necessary modifications required by different conditions

in dams and rivers, it offers exceptional advantages, especially where expense is a consideration, and there is not much water to play with. These are my reasons for recommending it."—Dr. M. Nowicki.

The engraving explains matters so clearly that I have not thought it necessary to give a word-for-word translation of the Doctor's description; but, if any little matter is not clear, I shall be happy to explain it. It seems to me that we are much indebted to Herr Pietsch for inventing, and Dr. Nowicki for describing, such a very practical and extremely cheap salmon ladder. It can hardly fail to succeed if used on such rivers as the Don in Aberdeenshire, at the horrible weir at Armathwaite on the Eden, at Totnes weir on the Dart, and other similar places where, except in heavy waters, salmon cannot pass up stream.

R. B. MARSTON.

PROTECTING THE SPAWN OF FISH IN THE THAMES.

THE idea of adopting some method of affording protection to the spawn of fish during the close season originated in the active mind of Mr. Thomas Spreckley, the indefatigable president of the Thames Angling Preservation Society, for the benefit of all classes of Thames anglers, and in a previous number of the FISHING GAZETTE reference was made to the commencement of the work under his personal superintendence in a portion of the tidal waters in connection with the roach. During the last week this work has been carried on to a considerable extent, and in the unavoidable absence of Mr. Spreckley it has been most ably superintended by Mr. A. J. Little, an active and practical member of the committee of the society, by placing a quantity of casks and faggots between Richmond and Teddington weirs. The most important portion has been the tail and of Eel Pie Island, which was found full of the spawn of roach, and the fish were there in thousands. Here were placed eight faggots, and to secure the spawn from the swans a quantity of wire netting was put around them, secured by ripecks, to keep the boats away, and to make all perfectly safe. Head river keeper Alfred Thompson gives it as his opinion, "There was enough of spawn in that place alone to stock a river." In addition to this, some casks with boughs in them were sunk at Pe'ersham Eyot, and one below in a celebrated deep swim. One also was placed in the barbel hole just below Messom's Boat House; another by the centre island between the two bridges at Richmond, and some faggots at Teddington Lock and Weir, all thoroughly covered and protected. This work has, in all probability, been one of the most important of all in the common interests of the Thames Fishery, and ought to be duly and substantially appreciated and supported by the anglers in the tideway. The upper portion of the river above Teddington Lock has not been altogether neglected, but there was not the necessity of doing it to a similar extent. It was observable in the tidal waters that the bream are now making their appearance. It is also reported above Kingston the roach, chub, and barbel are to be seen in unusually large quantities actively engaged in their spawning operations. All this information must be highly satisfactory in prospect of the forthcoming general angling season, and as affording undeniable proof of the river being well stocked with fish.

B.

CLUB REPORTS.

AMICABLE BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

We, the Amicable Brothers, members of the oldest Sunday club in London, have sent reports to all papers that have anything to do with angling matters, and we have had the greatest of pleasure in seeing them placed in the column for that purpose; but we really think the writer in the FISHING GAZETTE must have been biased by someone to have entered our report (a week later than sent) in the manner in which he has done, and made it a leading article. We think he must have been hoodwinked by the specious sophistry of some one. The South-Western Railway Company gave notice that they intended to withdraw the privilege ticket, and give them only to the West Central Association, who state that they hold more members than the other two associations combined; but we are told that is wrong. And with regard to the misuse of tickets, the West Central Association has had the greatest number of complaints to answer for, and if the South-Western Railway Company grant to them alone the concession, if they manage to govern what they have now, how will they be able to contend with the whole of the London anglers? We have not the least doubt that the deputation from the United London Association Central Committee, who waited upon Mr. Verrinder last week, placed the whole of the matter in a different light, and we have no doubt that the privilege tickets will be granted as heretofore; but in the event of the privilege tickets being not granted by the South-Western Railway Company to the United London Association Central Committee, then we, the members of the above society, unanimously agree not to apply for any tickets if granted to the West Central Association alone.—J. WORLEDGE, sec.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

BERESFORD ANGLING SOCIETY.

The annual dinner of the Beresford Angling Society took place on the 14th inst., at the Grove House Tavern, Camberwell. The past season has been a very successful season with the Beresford, some very fine takes of fish having been shown, the principal feature amongst them being the large number of good pike caught by the members during the latter part of the year 1883. Messrs. Sames, Whitaker and Frei have had the heaviest gross-weights of all fish in the order named, and with Messrs. Wilkes, Weller, F. Whitaker, and Curtis, have been the chief prize winners. The chair was ably occupied by Mr. W. H. Beckett, of the West Central Association, who, in the course of the evening, when responding to the toast of the West Central Association, took the opportunity of referring

to the present position of the association with reference to the privilege tickets and other matters, and his remarks in justification of Mr. Geen's conduct and course of action were thoroughly appreciated by the company present. After the toast of the "Beresford Angling Society," which was proposed by the chairman in complimentary terms, and responded to by the vice-chairman of the evening, Mr. Ellis, the chairman of the Beresford, the health of Mr. Beckett was drunk with musical honours, and Mr. Ellis in proposing the toast, took the opportunity of paying a tribute of respect to Mr. Geen, and asked Mr. Beckett to be good enough to inform him that the Beresford Angling Society had passed a resolution that the members would cordially support Mr. Geen in his views, feeling sure that the interests of all true anglers would in Mr. Geen's hands be in safe keeping, and further, that the members regarded the resolution of the "Amicable" Brothers as one of the most ungrateful acts it was possible for them to have committed towards one who had done more in his time for the benefit of the London angler than had ever been possible for anyone else to accomplish, and the Editor of the FISHING GAZETTE was deserving the thanks of the angling world for his comments on this "amicable" resolution. The health of the secretary, Mr. Frei, was also drunk with musical honours, and after two or three more toasts, harmony was indulged in for the remainder of the evening. Mr. Robert Whitmore Cox, the organist of Avondale Church, attended as a visitor, and presided at the piano with great ability. The testimonial subscribed by a few friends for presentation to Mr. Sames, of the Beresford, for his bravery in having on two occasions rescued anglers from drowning at the risk of his own life, will be shortly presented to him. Mr. Sames holds the medal of the Royal Humane Society, and a testimonial on vellum awarded him by the same Society for his gallant conduct. His latest exploit was the rescue at Staines last year.

BOSTONIAN ANGLING SOCIETY.

The annual supper of the above society will take place on Thursday next, the 29th inst., at the club house, Dalby Tavern, Dalby Street, Prince of Wales Road, N.W., and after the supper we shall be glad to see as many brother anglers and friends as can make it convenient to attend.—H. R. BASTAIN, hon. sec.

CRESCENT ANGLING SOCIETY.

On Wednesday evening last, the 14th inst., the second anniversary of the above society was celebrated at host Collins's, Giraffe Tavern, Penton Place, by a dinner, under the presidency of R. La Feuillade, Esq. A numerous company sat down to a bountiful repast, and, needless to say, ample justice was done to the good things provided. It must be exceedingly gratifying to the members of this association to know it is in a most flourishing condition, and there can be no doubt its success is due to the indefatigable secretary, Mr. H. T. T. Ross, who enters heart and soul into the object sought to be attained—namely, to be one of the premier angling societies of the metropolis. There was a goodly company present, the vice-chair being occupied by Mr. R. Shaw. The respective chairmen were supported by Messrs. Bolton, (Elephant and Castle), Newington, J. Collins, sen. Walker, Boalch, Woodhams, Nash, Brooks, Phillips, Reilly, Parrott, Henderson, Ross (secretary), &c., &c. To those who take a delight in the piscatorial art, the advantages of entering a society of this sort must be of a twofold character—namely, the fishing for prizes of great value, and the being conveyed by rail to the waters around the metropolis at a very much cheaper rate than obtains to the ordinary traveller; the subscription being at the nominal figure of 10s. per annum. It is a pleasing duty to record that at the end of the first eighteen months—viz., 2nd April, 1884, the society has a balance in hand of over £4; whilst at the end of the first six months there was a debt of between £2 and £3. After the repast, and the cloth had been cleared, the usual loyal and patriotic toasts were given and duly responded to, and the toast of the evening was proposed by the chairman in a neat speech—"Success to the Crescent Angling Society." In the course of his remarks, he said there could be no possible doubt but the success it had attained was due in a great measure to the worthy treasurer, Mr. J. Collins, jun. Mr. Wood briefly responded. Several other toasts followed, the interval being filled up by some good songs rendered in very effective style by several members of the Society. The subscriptions to the prize fund were announced as follows:—Mr. J. Collins, jun., £5 5s.; Messrs. Halford and Nosworth, £3 3s. each; Mr. Collins, sen., £2 2s.; Messrs. Boalch, Walker, Shaw, Carr, Martene, Bull, Joel, Ross, Vaughan, and Bowers, £1 1s. each; Mr. R. La Feuillade, £1 1s. 6d.; and Messrs. Miles, Reilly, Henderson, Phillips, Wood, Woodhams, and Lockyer, 10s. 6d. each. Mr. Bolton stated that, in conjunction with some friends, it was intended to offer a massive silver cup to be competed for during the ensuing season, a remark which called forth great applause. A most charming and agreeable evening was spent, and the catering of the excellent and worthy host and hostess left nothing to be desired, everything of the most recherché character being provided, which gave the highest satisfaction.

GOOD INTENT ANGLING SOCIETY.

Several of our members have been trout fishing during this month, and several fish have been taken; the largest up to the present is 2lb. 7½ ozs., taken by Mr. R. Murphy, Mr. Dowse next with 2lb. 5½ ozs. Mr. G. Bates, two fish, 3lb. ½ oz., from the Lea. Notice to members.—A special meeting will be held on Tuesday, the 27th inst., to consider going for prizes; and also for members to give their names and addresses for privilege tickets, as no ticket will be obtained without; and the same also applies to the Anglers' Benevolent card of membership. Our general return visit, East District, will take place on June 9th.—R. MURPHY.

GREAT NORTHERN BROTHERS ANGLING SOCIETY.

At a special general meeting, held on Monday, May 12th, the following resolution was carried:—"That the existing, and all future members of this society be compelled to join the Anglers' Benevolent Society." In future no application for assistance will be entertained unless the applicant is a member of the Anglers' Benevolent Society. Our Wednesday Evening Concerts will be continued; anglers and friends welcome. The twenty-first annual distribution of prizes of this society will take place on Monday, May 26th. The business will commence early, as the list is a long one, containing 119 prizes; chairman, Mr. W. Theobald; vice, Mr. J. Dingley. We shall be pleased to receive a visit on this occasion from our brother anglers and friends.—J. FITCH, sec.

GREAT YARMOUTH PISCATORIAL ANGLING SOCIETY.

The usual weekly meeting was well attended on Tuesday, and satisfaction with thanks was duly accorded to our vice-president, Mr. D. S. Bayfield, for his gift of the plate with coat of arms of the society, and ordered to be entered

at Stationers' Hall. The secretary has also so arranged the ticket that any abuse of the holder in using it for other purposes than angling can be stopped on just taking the number, so if possible prevent the railway companies who grant privileges being imposed upon as we read have been done—or said to have been done—in the metropolitan societies. There were more influential members duly elected, which now, I am very happy to say, is an every week's occurrence, making the society's roster longer than ever. Two gentlemen made a nice presentation also to decorate the club-room walls, having had the good fortune to take 38 lb. of fish between them in a few hours. They gave four to our naturalist, Mr. Lowne, to be set up and cased at their expense, and every angler should feel gratified at the act of Messrs. Freeman and Brassnett, as it was the first meeting they had attended, only being members one week.—J. LARK, sec.

P.S.—Our outing comes off on Thursday next at Cantley. Good yacht there. That day some of our London members might run down and see their yachting and angling friends at the same time.

GRESHAM ANGLING SOCIETY.

At the usual weekly meeting held at Masons' Hall Tavern, on Tuesday evening, Mr. Crumplen acted as a secretary, on behalf of Mr. Hartley, temporarily absent, and whose services during the past year have been so much appreciated by the members of the society. Mr. A. W. Parker was unanimously voted to the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting having been duly read and confirmed, Mr. Crumplen said he had great pleasure in informing the society that their esteemed representative in the National Angling Contest, Mr. Thomas, had started for Loch Leven, and he expressed a strong hope, which was very heartily endorsed by the meeting, that he would not be unsuccessful in the competition. This was now the third year they had been able to find volunteers to aid them, and he was quite sure when Mr. Thomas returned, he would be able to give a good account of his journey, and they all knew he would do his best to win, as they all wished he might. Some unimportant correspondence having been read, Mr. R. Ghurney informed the society that he had received a consignment of bream from Mr. Lark, of the Great Yarmouth Piscatorial Society, and of these, fifty good fish survived the journey, and were placed in the Lea, in a suitable part of the water at St. Margaret's, under the auspices of the London Fisheries Society. Every endeavour would be used to prevent any of these fish being removed for a season or two, and it was hoped any angler taking one, would see the importance of returning it to the stream. The Fisheries Society were arranging for another consignment, and it was hoped in time that there would be plenty of good bream in the Lea. Mr. Ghurney also mentioned that the Lund boxes, especially those at the Red Lion, Stanstead, promised to be a very great success, and a quantity of healthy looking perch spawn having been deposited the parent fish would now be turned out. Mr. Crumplen having said a few words corroborative of Mr. Ghurney's remarks, and described briefly his visit to this Waltonian hostelry, an interesting discussion arose on the causes of the fungoid disease, during which much useful information was elicited, and the experience of members obtained. Although many opinions were given, the prevailing idea seemed to favour the explanation of Dr. Brunton, that whatever the active cause, the disease was to a great extent taken and propagated by unhealthy fish, this unhealthiness being induced largely by river pollution, overcrowding, or other evils tending to render fish less able to resist its influence. Mr. C. S. Bentley, F.R.M.S., Captain Alfred, Mr. R. Ghurney, Mr. A. W. Parker, Mr. Field, and others took part in the debate; Mr. Crumplen giving a résumé of an interesting discussion of a similar character, which had taken place at the Piscatorial Society's meeting on the previous evening. A welcome and notable event, was the announcement that Mr. Charles Bates, the respected treasurer of "The Gresham," had landed a trout of 4½ lb. weight from the Thames, which had been duly weighed in—an announcement that was received with enthusiasm. A printed copy of the prize list for the present and coming season was handed round, and from the character of the prizes and variety of competitions on special days, many in creasing evenings are already assured to the society. Tuesday next promises to be one of these, when Mr. A. W. Parker has kindly undertaken to give a brief but descriptive musical lecture, which will be very fully illustrated in a novel and amusing manner. Several members have kindly volunteered to sing, and some good old angling songs will be a feature of the evening, which, from what we know Mr. Parker has in view will be one of the most attractive the society has yet had. It is also hoped that Mr. Thomas may have returned from Loch Leven, and if so, he will of course give the society an account of his expedition. Members of any angling society are always welcomed to these gatherings, and we have no doubt their presence will aid in making next Tuesday the success it ought to be. After a vote of thanks to the chairman, the proceedings closed in the usual manner.—C.T.

HAMMERSMITH UNITED ANGLING SOCIETY.

A West Central visit took place at this society on Thursday, the 15th inst., when the following societies were represented—viz, Cambridge Friendly, Cobden, Crown Piscatorial, Duke of Norfolk, Ealing Dean, Good Intent, Globe, Hammersmith Club, North-Western, and Queen's. The handsome club room has been redecorated and the cases rearranged, which look all the better for it. The following gentlemen, amongst others, enlivened the evening with capital singing—viz., Messrs. Jenkins, Reeves (Cobden), Parsons, Harris (Ealing Dean), Holmes (Globe), Underwood (North-Western), Osborne, Corney (Queen's), Flowers (Hammersmith Club), Sutton (Cambridge). Messrs. Burgess and Turner (friends), receiving encores, repeated; Messrs. Peachy, Penny, and Gatwood (H. U. A.S.) sang very nicely, and received great applause.—RETTA.

HAMPSTEAD ANGLING SOCIETY.

We have arranged to hold a complimentary visit on the 26th inst., at the new club house, the Duke of Hamilton, New End, Hampstead, when all brother anglers will be made welcome. Mr. Jennings, of the Bostonian Angling Society, has kindly consented to take the chair. We hope to have a good meeting.—W. G. BROWN, sec.

INDEPENDENT BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

Our first annual supper took place on Tuesday, 20th inst., at the club house, Bird in Hand, Long Acre, W.C. Host, Mr. Waldock, who catered for us in grand style, plenty of everything being placed on the table, and being so tempting, caused those that sat down to do ample justice to the same. After the cloth being drawn, the chair was filled by Mr. I. Goodes, of the Little Independent Angling Society, and the vice-chair by Mr. A. W. Lewrage, of the Rodney Piscatorials, both proving very efficient chairmen. The harmony of the evening commenced with a song from Mr. I. Goodes, followed with one from Mr. Lewrage; there were also a great many more from the following gentlemen:—Messrs. Parsons and Pipe, of the Little Independent Angling

Society; Mr. Jennings, of the Bostonians, with his excellent song "Sailing"; Mr. Webb, of the Lincoln, sang a very laughable song called the "Pious Young Man"; Messrs. Williams and Johnson, also of the Lincoln, next obliged. Mr. King, of the Fitzroy, was very amusing with "How's Your Poor Mother." There was also Messrs. Stanton, of the Golden Barbel, Clark and Coombes of the Independent Brothers, and several others. Messrs. Barr, Mansfield, and Hampstead, gave some capital selections with their little band, especially one from the opera of "Norma." During the evening there were a great number of prizes given for the ensuing season; there was also a great many toasts given, and the health of the visitors drunk with musical honours, especially that of Mr. Ellis, host of the Lincoln Angling Society; Mr. Kemp, host of the Fitzroy Angling Society; Mr. Waldock, host of the Independent Brothers Angling Society; these gentlemen not being in any way backward in doing good for all brother anglers, and also the secretary, H. Moore. We also thank Mr. Kemp, Mr. Ellis, Mr. Elbourn, of the Phoenix Angling Society, and Mr. J. Pipe, of the Little Independent Angling Society for the way in which they got their members together and coming in such strong force, and we specially thank every gentleman for his attendance on this occasion. Everything was kept going till closing time, when everybody parted well pleased.—H. MOORE, sec.

P.S.—We are pleased to say that a most handsome trout was taken by our secretary, H. Moore, at Great Marlow on the 18th inst. We are also open to enrol several more gentlemen as members.

ROYAL GEORGE ANGLING SOCIETY.

Tuesday next, May 27th, will be quarterly night, when we hope every member will show himself at headquarters. Those who cannot be present, and wish to be possessors of the new privilege tickets, must send in their names to the secretary at once. It is arranged that another Smoking Concert take place on June 17th, when a large number of members and friends are expected by W. H. RIDER.

SOUTH LONDON ANGLING SOCIETY.

The annual supper of this society will be held on Thursday next, the 29th inst., at their club house, the George and Dragon, 235, Camberwell Road, when the chair will be taken by Mr. Buck, with Mr. Field in the vice-chair.—J. KIRWAN, sec.

THE PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

The usual weekly meeting of this society took place on Monday evening last, at Ashley's Hotel, Covent Garden. Amongst those present were:—Messrs. Godwin, Hil, Harden, E. Walker, Foreman, Bennett, Pattison, Sachs, H. B. Brown, Gillett, Gray, F. G. Pearce (hon. president), T. Huggett, Meyef, Goodger, Fennings, Blundell, Jesse, Booker, Crumplen, Dr. Brunton, Rev. G. Sumner, J. Lander (hon. sec.), &c. Mr. Booker was voted to the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The chairman called upon Mr. Crumplen, and that gentleman spoke upon the question of the Railway Privilege Tickets, to the effect that the London and North-Western Railway had withdrawn all such tickets for the present, also that the London and South-Western Railway had determined to grant their privileges to one society only. Mr. Crumplen spoke warmly in favour of the societies which had been excluded from those privileges, and trusted that some steps would be taken which would be found acceptable to all parties. Mr. Sachs said that the effect of privilege tickets was that owners of property at Weybridge, Esher, &c., were obliged to exercise great vigilance, especially on Sundays, to keep the large army of anglers off their private grounds. Mr. Booker produced, for inspection, one of the new "Marston Trout Rods," which was generally admired. It was stated that it was necessary to be at the water-side before a verdict on its capabilities could be given. Mr. Pattison has been fishing the Herford water without success, only taking one large chub, which was duly returned to its watery home. The Rev. G. Sumner has been fishing at Bakewell, in Derbyshire, and on the whole has done well. His two best days were 7½ brace, and 5 brace. Other days, 2½, 2 and 1½ brace. The trout here are well conditioned, and afford splendid sport. He was a good deal troubled with the grayling, who were full on, and irrepressible. The hon. president (F. G. Pearce) rose to propose a vote of thanks to Mr. Huggett, who, under the signature of "T.H.," had reported the proceedings of the society during the present year. The vote was carried with acclamation. Dr. Brunton has been trouting at Winchester and elsewhere. First day, five trout; second day, nil—weed cutting preventing; on Thursday evening last, four brace of trout weighing 8 lb. Mr. Booker, fishing at Pangbourne, had a run for a fine trout. He has been lucky enough to get three Thames trout this season. He also took a 4 lb. chub spinning, and duly returned same to the weir pool. Mr. Godwin reported that our member, Mr. Bates, had taken a Thames trout. Rev. G. Sumner announced that the salmon disease is very bad in the River Wye. He considers the disease to be contagious, and makes it a rule to destroy any fish he may capture that has any of the fungus attached. Dr. Brunton is of opinion that the disease is caused by river pollution. Mr. Sachs gave an interesting reminiscence of grayling fishing at Ludlow. "Our Noble Selves," and "The health of the Chairman," having been duly proposed by Mr. Goodger, brought the business of the evening to a close.—T. H.

UNITED LONDON ANGLERS.

On Saturday morning last, Mr. C. A. Medcalf (Chairman), in company with R. Ghurney (secretary), were at St. Margaret's to receive a consignment of bream kindly forwarded by Mr. J. Lark, of Yarnmouth. The tank arrived in due course by mail train at Broxbourne at 2 40 a.m., fresh water was run into the tank for about one hour, at 4 50 the tank was forwarded on by goods train to St. Margaret's. The fish were at once taken to the river and consigned to their new quarters. A few had died during the journey, but fifty strong and healthy fish remained. I am in expectation of another hundred in a few days.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

ILLEGAL FLY-FISHING IN THE TEME.—On Friday, at Leominster, before the county justices, William Wall, of Ludlow, was summoned for illegal fishing in the River Teme, at Ludford, on the 6th May, in water which Mr. Parkinson has the right of fishing. (Mr. Parkinson rejected from the Bench during the hearing of the case.) John Jackson, gamekeeper to Mr. Parkinson, said that about mid-day on the 6th May he saw the defendant throwing the fly and fishing in the River Teme, over which Mr. Parkinson has a private right of fishery. He went and spoke to him, and asked him if he had any right there. He said he had not, and that he was only trying down under the plantation. Defendant asked witness not to say anything about it. Fined £1, including costs.

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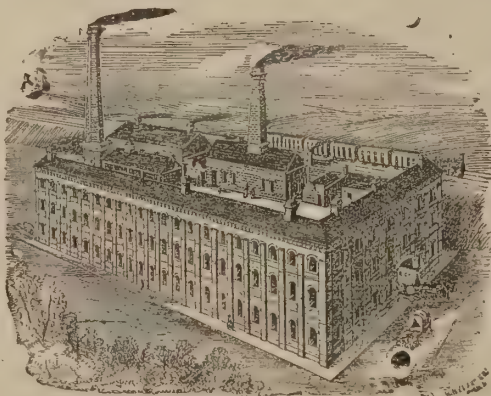
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Address Manager, FISHING GAZETTE, 12 and 13, Fetter Lane, London, and send
stamps with the order, or the advertisement cannot be inserted.WANTED.—Particulars and prices of Secondhand Books on Angling and Fish Culture.
Must be in good condition—Address Editor, FISHING GAZETTE, 12 and 13, Fetter Lane,
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will lift 12 lb. dead weight, with 5 dozen salmon and trout flies, all in good condition.
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RIVER REPORTS.

TIME OF HIGH WATER IN THE THAMES.

To find the time of high water in the Thames at any of the following places,
to the time of high water at London Bridge (given below).

	30 minutes for Chelsea.
40	" Putney.
45	" Hammersmith.
50	" Barnes.
55	" Kew.
75	" Richmond.
80	" Twickenham.
85	" Teddington.

Example:—If it is high water at 2 o'clock at London Bridge, it will be high
water at Teddington about 3.25, or eighty-five minutes later; but it must be
remembered that a strong wind accelerates or retards the tide very much.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.

		Morning.	Afternoon.
For Saturday, May 24	..	12 44	1.10
Sunday, " 25	..	1.35	2.0
Monday, " 26	..	2.25	2.49
Tuesday, " 27	..	3.13	3.39
Wednesday, " 28	..	4.5	4.29
Thursday, " 29	..	4.54	5.17
Friday, " 30	..	5.42	6.9

New Moon May 24. Whit Monday, June 2.

THE LOWER THAMES.

The following reports of trout catching have come to hand. A man of the
name of Charles Hemmings, fishing from the bank near the iron bridge at
Kingston, caught a very handsome fish of 6 lb. 10 oz., in splendid condition.
A gentleman, fishing with William Milbourne, at Hampton Court, got a nice
fish of 4 lb. 9 oz.—B.A gentleman, fishing with James Haslett at Chertsey Weir, has taken a nice
little trout of 2½ lb. A gentleman, fishing at the Bell Weir, just above
Staines, has caught a good fish of 6½ lb. Mr. Palmer, fishing with George
Rosewell, between Hallford and Walton Bridge, has taken two trout, one
weighing 3 lb. and the other 6 lb.

Docket Point.

Not much news to send respecting the catching of trout: the same thing
over again—no one comes to fish, and the fish feeding well. I was out on
Saturday fishing with a gentleman at Chertsey Weir—got one 2½ lb.; tried
again on the 18 h, but no luck. That makes my third whole day out since the
fishing began, and two half days. I shall have to follow the example of other
fishermen, and fish for myself—it seems to pay. The roach are busy spawning,
and the bream up the backwater here are spawning, plenty of them. People
who doubt there are fish in the river should look round in the spawning time;
they would soon be convinced to the contrary.—JAMES HASLETT.

UPPER THAMES.

The river is now in excellent condition; fish are being caught, and anglers
who want to distinguish themselves by catching a Thames trout should now
attempt to do so during the coming week, for if they tide the matter over until
Whitsuntide the game will assuredly not be worth a farthing rushlight, much

less a respectable dip, for the madding crowd of boats, and their much madder occupiers, will scare both small and great fish into inaccessible nooks and corners, anything but pleasant for expensive lines to be cast into. At Bray, Mr. R. Nicholson, with H. Wilde, jun. (the "Infant Kingfisher"), the other day landed two fish going respectively, 5 lb. and 6 lb.—grand specimens of Thames trout in colour and outline. At Marlow, on the 18th, Mr. Moore, secretary of the Independent Brothers Angling Society, of London, caught, in that grandest of up-Thames pools, opposite the cosiest of Complete Anglers hotels, a fine trout of 5 lb. At Hurley, Barnes, with a patron, on the 18th inst., had 3 trout, last going 3½ lb.; and Mr. Troupe, with a fly (Alexandra), had two trout, and any amount of nuisances in the shape of chub. At Maple Durham and Shillingford fish of 4 and 5 lb. have been killed, and at Donnington, in one day, Mr. Cornely has grassed six decent fish. Thursday evening—Water in prime fettle, but wind has just veered round to E.; but this need not deter anglers, as it will not last, and will have little influence on the already warmth of the river.—MARLOW BUZZ.

Datchet.

Water very low and clear, and the bright day has precluded any chance of success with the trout in the open water. The weirs should be fished now. On the 18th, a patron, with J. Hoare, took a fish 8 lb. I was with a patron the same day and ran the largest fish I have seen move; but, unfortunately, lost him. With more rain sport will look up, as there are plenty of fish.—G. LUMSDEN.

Sonning.

The weather has been better lately, and several gentlemen have been out trying to get some trout. Mr. Huggett tried at one place just above the Oaks, where we knew there was a good fish, one day, but never had a run. A person from Reading fished the day after, and got a trout of 7½ lb. There have been several taken 2 lb. to 3 lb. each. There are to be seen, just by the Bridge, some score of small trout, about 2 in. long. Mr. H. took a lot of chub, fly-fishing, which were marked, and put back.—W. HULL.

Richmond.

One of our customers took a nice trout at Datchet on the 18th, but it was not weighed till next day, when it went a little over 7½ lb.—GAYNOR AND SON.

Ancholme District.

I was from home on an angling expedition last week, consequently I sent in no report. I am glad to say I had excellent sport, but have special orders not to report the whereabouts. The waters are now very low, and much encumbered with weeds. I find that our local waters do not require such a large list of flies. The following flies are those which I used last week, and are in order of merit:—March brown, red spinner, blue dun, and freckled dun. I am glad to see that last week's issue contains my reply to Mr. Corry which was sent the week after his appeared. Two or three of the ablest writers in the *Field* had notes endorsing my view about three weeks ago. I should have copied them out, but thought the subject was closed. I have since sent paper away.—THOMAS FORD, Caistor.

Ballynahinch.

On last Thursday, 15th inst., we had another spate, which again made the above water almost unfishable. Still, on the 14th, Mr. Sutherland got one salmon, 12 lb.; on the 16th, two, 10 and 14 lb.; on the 17th, one, 14 lb. Same date Mr. French killed one, 12½ lb.; on the 19th, Mr. G. Sutherland, one peal, 5 lb., the first that has been taken this week; both rods were unfortunate by losing fish. Peal are showing well on Lough Magh. On the 20 h, James Steel got one, 12½ lb., and lost one. Prospects are good for the coming week, if we have no more spates. The glass has been rising steadily these last thirty-six hours.—WALTER BLACKADDER.

Bure (Norwich)

Some good perch have been caught on this river in the neighbourhood of Wroxham. One gentleman, I am credibly informed, landed 17, the smallest of which weighed over 1 lb. These were taken with paternoster and live minnows. On Saturday last, two friends of mine, fishing near the Old Willow Tree, at Wrexham Bridge, succeeded during the afternoon in capturing over 200 small roach and flats, nothing, I believe, weighing more than ¾ lb. This is the worst feature—the size of the fish—but as they abound, I am not so sure that the killing a large number of them may not eventually be beneficial to the water. Those who are used to waters where it is necessary to preserve every specimen under a certain size or weight, will not agree with me on this point; but all I can say is, that they do not understand the vast expanse of nursery which the north river affords, and the superabundance of small fry of every kind, which really try the patience of an angler; for out of twelve bites you land nine little fish, which afford about as much sport as a piece of tin 1½ inch by 3 inches would, if it were attached to the hook. But, after all, to those who love pretty scenery, and want plenty of bites every few minutes, I cannot offer better advice than to visit the river Bure. Prospects good.—ROBERT MOLL.

Dee and Don (Aberdeenshire).

Though the takes in the nets along the coast showed a falling off when compared with those of the previous week, the number of fish captured in the river nets was greater last week than has been the case for some considerable time. Fine weather for running was the rule and both rivers were in splendidly sized volume. Little was done with the rod on the lower and middle reaches—not even in the Banchory district. Too large flies are not infrequently used, and the record of captures fewer than the state of the river might warrant us to expect. For the grilse season now fast approaching, we know of no better flies than the silver doctor, dusty miller, blue fly, claret Jock (invented by us some time ago), red bumble, Jock Scott, Childers and Saturday. All these flies ought to be small and dressed on double (braided) irons. A heron hackled pattern of our own is a most effective grilse lure for evening use when almost everything else fails. Trout fishing on the Don is falling off in the lower water, but fair sport is still being got about Alford. The minnow trouting will soon be commencing about Kintore, Fintray, and Parkhill. Then we expect to be able to report some big fellows being banked. In the upper reaches of Don, bottom and fly fishing are both doing very well just now, and with more water would improve perceptibly. Kelts are now pretty well out of both rivers, and gratifying as this may be, it is to be regretted that they spread the fungoid so extensively among the clean fish ere they left. Last week there were scarcely any signs of disease amongst the clean fish, but it seems to prevail extensively now. The warm weather we are having may in

some measure account for its rapid spread. Some heavy fresh-run salmon were got in the Dee during the earlier days of the present week. One or two of them which we saw were perfect specimens, and taken with the "peacock heron." The takes about Ballyter and Braemar give evidence that in these districts, particularly the latter, there is no lack of fish. J. C. Wordie, Esq., and party have for the past month been enjoying almost unexampled sport on the Invercauld private water. Mr. McGregor's hotel water at Ballater has also been affording very good sport, as, indeed, it has done all the season through. Several other reaches up the country—the Aboyne Hotel Water, Glentanar, and Cambus O'May—have also done well. In connection with the net fishing along the coast, it was noticed that grilse were scarce. Shots varied from 20 to 120 salmon and grilse, during the day and night. Most of these were goodly-sized salmon. Somewhat about 1,000 salmon were got at all the stations. On the Dee the fishing improved, and on Saturday night and during Sunday considerable numbers of fine fish went right through. The shots got during the week at all the stations ranged from 3 to 30 fish. At the Rake and Midchingle, 50 salmon, 12 grilse, and 16 sea trout were got. At the Pot and Fords, 144 salmon, 7 grilse, and 40 sea trout. At all the Dee stations, 250 salmon, 42 grilse, and 172 sea trout—the nearest calculation we can make. Angling results by gentlemen on the Dee reported to us as below, viz.:—Cairnton—19th, D. Rae, 1 fish, 17 lb. Woodend—Friday, F. Watson, Esq., 1 fish, 10 lb. Report of Messrs. Wm. Black and Son, rod and fishing tackle makers, Kincardine O'Neil: Norton House Water—Major C. Leith Hay, Saturday, 2 fish, 7½ and 10½ lb.; Friday, J. Nicol, keeper, 1 fish, 10½ lb. Desswood—J. Harper, Thursday, 1 fish, 17 lb. The *Daily Free Press* of 21st records the following:—"As usual, the Invercauld Dee Fishings, in yielding sport, far surpasses any of the other Divisions. On these Mr. J. C. Wordie, Clunie Lodge, and party, had some 59 salmon within the week, among which were some heavy weights. Detailed, the results were; 12 on Monday, 11 on Tuesday, 11 on Wednesday, 16 on Thursday, 7 on Friday, 2 on Saturday." Woodend—F. Watson, Esq., Saturday, 1 fish; Monday, 1 fish. Kineskie—C. Wolleston, Esq., Tuesday, 1 fish, 9 lb. Cairnton—Tuesday, D. Rae, 1 fish, 9 lb. Cambus O'May—Monday, H. T. Broadhurst, Esq., and party, 8 fish, 7 to 16 lb. Report of Mr. George Smith, saddler and tackle maker, Ballater: Invercauld Arms Water—Captain Smith, Tuesday, 1 fish, 8 lb.; Wednesday, 5 fish, 7, 8, 8, 8, and 9 lb.; Thursday, 1 fish, 11 lb.; Friday, 2 fish, 9 and 9½ lb. W. Coupland, Esq., Wednesday, 3 fish, 7, 8, and 12 lb.; Thursday, 2 fish, 7 and 9 lb.; Friday, 5 fish, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 13½ lb. Monaltrie Water—F. Pickop, Esq., Thursday, 1 fish, 7 lb. Col. Keen, Monday, 1 fish, 9 lb. Monday, 19th, Invercauld Arms Hotel Water—W. Coupland, Esq., 7 fish, 7, 7, 8, 8, 10, 15, and 20 lb. Captain Smith, 3 fish, 6½, 8, and 15 lb. Monaltrie—F. Pickop, Esq., 2 fish, 9 and 24 lb. John McHardie, Morven, 3 fish, 6, 8, and 12 lb.—W. M.

Dove.

We have now got the weather all that can possibly be desired. It has been real summer nearly all the week, and we have had hundreds of rodsters out on both the public and private waters, those in Dove Dale having been particularly well patronised. Good dishes of trout have been the rule rather than the exception. I hear of one basket of nine brace having been captured near Rochester, and the general average has been quite six brace each. The killing flies have been the same as last week, namely, the grannam or greentail, and the yellow dun of May. The water has now run down very low, and is quite gin-like in its fineness, and the river would be no worse for a few showers. Vegetation is now looking at its best, and lovers of the picturesque could not do better than visit the beautiful Dales if they desire an enjoyable holiday.—THE SPLODGER.

Eden (Carlisle).

We had some fine full brown waters last week and three dark, showery days, and some excellent baskets were killed with the fly. A few salmon were also killed, Mr. Murchie getting one in the Angling Association water, and Capt. Rhodes one in the Corby water. The fine bright weather this week has put a stop to fly-fishing, except in the evenings; but trout are taking the creeper pretty well. The *Carlisle Express* of last Saturday contained an angry growl at the river bailiffs, accusing them of patrolling the river during the day, and lying in bed at night when the poaching fraternity were busily at work, as evidenced by the numbers of netted trout to be seen in the fish shops. Now, I am not going to take the part of the bailiff's altogether, for I believe it is high time there was a thorough change in the management at headquarters. There is far too much police red tape about it, and we ought to have more convictions for night poaching than we get. Still, we must be fair in our charges. The "many stones of trout" on the fishmongers' stalls were not taken by shackle netters, as the river was in high flood at the time, but were dragged out by those abominable licensed implements, shoulder nets, of which there are five, close to Holme Wrange. It is notorious that trout have been getting very scarce in that district, and I firmly believe I have laid my finger on the true cause. If the Eden Board would raise the license duty on this rascally invention of the Evil One from 15s to £5 they would hear fewer complaints of neglect of duty on the part of their bailiffs. At the same time they might very profitably appoint a "Select Committee" to inquire into the system of management.—SILVER GREY.

Exe (Exeter).

Only one or two salmon taken during the week, and everyone busy doing the Devon Agricultural Show and other sights in the loyal and ever-faithful city. Over 26,000 persons visited the Show up to now (Thursday, 4 p.m.). River very low and stagnant, and until rain comes no hopes for successful angling.—J. A. KELLEY.

Exe (Tiverton).

The river is now low and clear, and the weather very bright, and fish only sport of an evening at dusk. The flies that have taken best are the May duns, hawthorne, and red spinner. A trout over 3 lb. was killed with the latter fly last evening.—W. MUDFORD.

Ilfracombe.

Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, some fine trout were taken from the s'ream along the Torrs bottom, and some fine fish are also taken from the reservoir, for which weekly, monthly, or yearly, tickets can be had of the clerk to the local board. Sea Fishing.—The weather has been fine, and the few boats that have been out have had fair catches of tamin, whiting, and pollock; they find the fish well on the bite at early morning and late evening tide. Monday, the trawling shifts brought up from the bay soles, place, cod, conger, and skate. Since that there has not been sufficient wind for them to tow their trawl. Those fishing with hand lines from the flat rock off the Capstone, have had some good catches of pout and pollock, every evening this week. Several lobsters and crabs have been brought in from the pots, and fishing

from the pier head and jetty with rod and hand lines still continues good. Weather, at present, very fine.—E. COMER.

Lea (Waltham Abbey).

There have been taken two very handsome trout, one $4\frac{1}{2}$ lb. A little boy, fishing with a minnow, had the rod pulled into the water; and a man whose name is known, got it out, and kept the fish, selling it for 4s. 6d. and a pint of beer. Rather warm, I think. On the 18th, Arthur Wheeler, jun., took one of 4 lb. 8 oz.—a very handsome fish, and I think it reads very well for the Lea Preservation Association. It is a treat to come and see two or three very large fish feeding. It is a daily occurrence in the early morning and towards the evening. Too pleased to put someone on the shop, private.—PENCIL.

Lea (Ware).

The weather at the time of writing is all that could be required for trout fishing, but still the trout want catching. Since the 1st there have been taken to my knowledge five going 4 lb., one turning 5 lb., and a lot going from 1 to 2 lb. Where are the water bailiffs when the water is drawn, it has been drawn three times lately, and all the fish caught are not returned. A curiosity for this part of the water has been taken in the shape of a barbel going $8\frac{1}{2}$ lb., it is in the possession of J. Baldock, the toll-keeper at the bridge, who is going to have it put up. Anglers visiting Ware, can procure minnows at the Saracen's Head, by asking for "Draper." The minnow and the worm (lob), seem the only taking bait down here.—PIPE CLAY.

Loch Leven.

Fishing on Loch Leven on Friday, Mr. P. D. Malloch, of Perth, had twelve trout, weighing 9 lbs. 9 oz. Mr. Malloch's catch was first in the competition of the Kinross shire Angling Club, at which there were ten boats engaged. Mr. Wilson, of Perth, had five trout weighing 5 lbs. on the same day.

Lugg and Arrow.

These streams are in good order for fishing, both keeping clear, but rather low, and in great want of a few hours' rain. The fish in both these streams are now biting freely at the little May fly, down hill, and black gnat, and some very nice fish have been taken with them. Fishing on Friday in the Arrow was very good, and a gentleman landed some very nice trout with the May-fly. In the Lugg a few small trout were taken with the fly. Some good sport was had in the Lugg on Saturday. A gentleman landed nine very fine trout with the black gnat and May-fly. In the Arrow a very nice dish was landed with the fly. On Monday a gentleman visited the Lugg with the fly, when he only landed three small trout, averaging 4 oz. each. The Arrow was tried the same day, and a very good lot were landed with the May-fly, weighing 7 lb. the lot. Tuesday being warm, the fish were rising well at the fly. One gentleman landed a very good dish in the Arrow with the black gnat, and another gentleman landed six very good trout in the Lugg with the fly. The Pinsley is still low, but clear, and the fish are sporting well at the fly. On Saturday a very nice lot of fish were taken with the down hill, and a few more were taken on Tuesday with the fly. In the Shobden waters some very good fish have been taken with the fly. There have been but few visitors to the Ivington district this week, and but few fish have been taken. A few good trout have been taken at Eardisland this week with the fly.—GWYNNE.

Medway (Tonbridge).

We have at length finished successfully the spawning season, and it is gratifying to find that the number of breeding fish of all kinds seen on the spawning beds is larger than in any previous year. The bream, roach, and carp have only gone off the beds a few days, and the spawn is now protected from interference by boats, &c. Otters still continue to play havoc, and it appears that as soon as one is killed two come to supply the deficiency. However, no doubt the water bailiffs' traps will in time get rid of these arant poachers, one of whom does ten times more damage than—YE MEDWAY WATER RAF.

Moy and Lough Conn (Ballina).

Although the weather is not the very best for angling, fair sport is now to be had on river and Lough. The river is now coming in good order after the heavy rain of last week, and plenty of fresh-run fish are to be seen sporting about in the pools. From one to two salmon a day is about the average to each rod, with a few trout. I had two good days' fishing by myself this week on the Lough. First day I killed two salmon, weighing 26 lb.; 13 trout, weighing 18 lb. Second day, 2 salmon, weighing 23 lb.; 10 trout, weighing 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. The most killing flies for trout are green olives and dark clarets, ribbed with gold twist and dark mallard wings. I have been fortunate to obtain some beautiful shades of olives and clarets, the best I have ever seen, from Mr. J. Noble, jun., of Wick.—FRANK HEARNS.

Severn (Kidderminster).

I see by the GAZETTE that there was nothing reported from the Severn last week; neither have I much to say this week. I was out last Friday. I took but five trout, and they ran small. I was out again yesterday (Tuesday). I rose several nice fish, but did not succeed in securing one, the fish coming very short—I suppose, owing to the bright sun and clear water. There was an abundance of fly on the water, chiefly green drake, iron blue, yellow Sally, little May-fly, black gnat, and a host of others, making the fish rather choice on what they feed. The dace are getting in good order again. I caught several, and they were perfectly gorged with fly, and fought like fury, leaping like trout when hooked, so they will be all right by the 16th of this month. I cannot hear of anything being done in the angling department in any part of the Severn, up or down; perhaps one solitary fish to a rod—some rods an entire blank. When I have anything particular I will keep you posted up.—E. EARP, sec.

Severn (Shrewsbury).

The Severn Fishery Board held their first meeting since the passing of the Freshwater Fisheries Act Amendment Bill, last week, in Shrewsbury, when Mr. J. Hawley Edwards read some draft bye-laws which he had drawn up, and which, if passed, will materially affect the netting and night line fishing in this district. Mr. Edwards proposed that they should be referred to the executive committee of the Board, who should meet at an early date, and report on the subject. Rain fell in the early part of the week which caused the Severn to rise a little, but by Thursday, minnow fishing was practicable, and Mr. R. Ellis, sen., near the Isle, caught three good trout, the largest weighed 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb., and the other two, $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. each; he has also taken some nice trout since then. Mr. J. Convey, on Wednesday, received four fine salmon, which had been taken at Melverley. These are the only fish I have heard of being taken in this district for some time. The hawthorn fly, the May fly; and some of the earlier ones will be found good killers just now.—SEVERN SALMON.

Illness has prevented my sending you any reports lately, but I am glad to say that the fishing here still continues good. Sergeant Evans landed a trout of 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. and another nearly as large, while spinning. Last Saturday, Easthope, junior, had one trout of about 1 lb., and myself one of over $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. with the minnow. Thursday, I took 7 trout with the fly, making 20 this year with the minnow, and 7 with the fly—all, except the latter, being fish of from $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. upwards. Mr. Ellis, of Martol, met with two nice trout in spinning the minnow last Tuesday evening, one being about 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb., and the other 1 lb. The water is now exceedingly low.—SEVERN GRAYLING.

Tay (Perth).

On the Fyndynate water, on Wednesday, the keeper caught two fine salmon, with the rod, weighing respectively 20 and 12 lb. Several good baskets of trout have been taken during the last week on the river. On the Cargill water, Colin McPherson and Major Parker killed fourteen splendid trout. Dr. G. Donaldson had one salmon, 22 lb., and fifteen trout. The weather on Thursday was trying for anglers. Mr. John Scotland, jun., Pitlochry, fished the Dalguise water. He got a fine fish, of 16 lb., with the blue phantom minnow. On the Tummel, a tributary of the Tay, the water was rather high on Wednesday for good sport. The weather was dull, a cold, squally, westerly wind prevailed, and casting was rather difficult. Mr. C. L. Wood, of Freeland, and the Master of the Rolls fished the Faskally water. The Master of the Rolls had a fine fish, weighing 19 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Mr. Wood, of Freeland, and the Master of the Rolls fished the Faskally water on Friday. Mr. Wood got a fine newly-run fish. The weather was not at all favourable, and a thick mist was hanging on the hills all day. On the Killiecrankie cottage water, on the Garry, a tributary of the Tummel, Mr. A. Alison Stewart killed four salmon, one weighing 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb., and three weighing 10 $\frac{1}{2}$, 10 $\frac{1}{2}$, and 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. respectively.

Teme (Ludlow).

Fine weather has prevailed here since last week, though severe storms have visited neighbouring parts. The streams are all in very fair angling order, but a day or two's rain would be acceptable, without which they will soon begin to get low. The meadows are sadly behind in the grass crops for want of rain, and in the uplands vegetation goes on very slowly. The cadow, or yellow May fly, has appeared in some parts, also the canon, or down hill fly. Fishermen up Lord Windsor's waters have been very lucky this week, and some good fish were killed with the yellow sally, or little May-fly, in those waters on Monday and Tuesday; some of the fish weighed 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. each, and were very fine ones. We saw some fine fish caught on Monday evening between the two bridges. Some excellent baskets of fish have been taken up the Clun with the little May-fly. Several gentlemen have visited the river-side early in the morning, but their success has been exceedingly limited, and, after four or five mornings' trial, have given up until the evening. Up the One some remarkably good catches have been made; one well-known sportsman, on Friday, while trolling, landed no less than twenty-two trout, all grand fish. The same gentleman, on Saturday evening, while fly fishing in the Corve (after 6 o'clock), caught eleven trout. A couple of gentlemen, on Tuesday, commenced fishing in the Corve, in Mr. Hay's ground, and tried Mr. Fennell's and Mr. Bird's, but could not secure a single fish; proceeding higher up, they got on to Mr. Farmer's waters, at Felton, and quickly caught 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ brace between them. We have heard nothing from Leintwardine club district. It is very fine and clear to-day, but we had a very sharp frost last night.—S. LUDLOW.

Teme (Tenbury).

Angling in this part the last few days has been quite brisk, the water still being clear, but a little lower than last week. The fish are now sporting well and are biting freely at the May-fly and black gnat, and several good baskets of fine trout have been taken with them. Fishing in the down water on Friday a gentleman landed a very nice lot of trout with the little May-fly, averaging from $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. each. Some capital sport was had above the bridge on Saturday; a gentleman landed twelve very nice trout with the fly. The water between Little Hereford Bridge and Tenbury was tried with the fly on Monday, and a gentleman landed a very nice basket of fine trout. A gentleman fishing below the Teme bridge the same day with the March brown landed some very good fish. Good sport was had below the town on Tuesday with the fly; one gentleman took a very nice dish of trout of about 3 lb. A very nice dish of trout was landed in the water near Easton Court with the fly. The fish were rising well on Wednesday morning at the fly; a gentleman took a very nice dish of trout with the May-fly and black gnat. The Ledwyche is in good fishing order but low, there were a few very nice trout taken in it on Tuesday with the fly. The Rea and Kyre are both in good fishing order, and a very nice dish of trout was taken in the Rea on Friday, and a few nice fish were taken on Monday with the little May-fly. In the Kyre a good dish of fish was landed on Saturday, and another nice lot on Monday with the fly.—WORCESTER.

Teme (Worcester).

The water is in excellent condition for fly-fishing, it being low and fine. The trout are to be seen upon the fords, sporting and eating up the spawn of the chub, dace, and roach, and, in all my experience, which is more than thirty years, I never knew so many fish up the rivers and brooks, and, as proof of this statement, the following takes have come to my knowledge:—Mr. Wall landed a brace of trout, 4 lb.; Mr. R. James took over 120 lb. of chub with the vamprey upon the Lower Teme fishery—this river is exempted from the Munde's Act. I landed in three outings over 25 lb. of dace and chub with the stone fly and grannam, also a few brace of trout with the blue dun; in fact, there has not been more sport in the month of May for years. The takes of salmon with the net are also good, some fish scaling from 20 to 50 lb. each.—J. A. GRIFFIN.

Torridge (Torrington).

River rather low, but some good lots have been taken during the week, Mr. Lasker, from London, took seventeen fish with the fly on Tuesday. I saw the fish and many of them were nearly $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. each. To-day a gentleman lodging in the town, took seventeen trout: this was his first day's fishing here. A Torrington man fished the tidal water two days (yesterday and Wednesday), he took over one hundred bass, besides other fish, and I have heard of one salmon 20 lbs., taken in the preserved water just above Torrington on Monday.—PRACTICAL ANGLER.

Trent (Nottingham).

Salmon angling has probably been less quiet during the week, and anglers generally are complaining of the necessity of an influx ere any decided improvement will be realised. A few days ago two Yorkshire gentlemen tried the fly in the Weston and Shardlow lengths, and Dr. Wright, of Nottingham, has tried it several times in the river below Colwick Weir. In each and every case the result has been nil, and fly anglers from a distance visiting the stream will, if

they wish to meet with sport, have to fall back on the employment of the worm or the spinning bait. On the 16th, my genial and enthusiastic friend, Mr. S. Sills, of Nottingham, caught near Willington a grand fish of 23½ lb. He was using the worm, and, being provided with very light tackle, his prize occupied a good half hour in the capture. Mr. J. Stanley, of the same town, had one of 16 lb.; and on Saturday, in the Willington length, Mr. Brown, jun., of Derby, landed one of 24 lb., and Mr. Banks, Derby, one of 16 lb. On the same day a remarkable incident befel myself. In worm fishing near King's Mills, I fished out an artificial bait—doubtless one lost by one of the two Yorkshire gentlemen mentioned above. Time being rapidly on the wane, I quickly looped it to my own line, and at the sixth throw hooked and killed a fish in the presence of a number of gentlemen that weighed 17½ lb. On Monday, four fish were taken out of the same length, but on Tuesday the returns were a blank. The nets, too, only accounted for a solitary twelve-pounder. On Wednesday, the weather was too hot, and, as stated at the opening of this report, a rise is much required.—THE MAN AT THE CLUBS.

Tweed and Teviot.

The past fortnight has been very favourable to the operations of the trout angler, many heavy baskets having been obtained. A continuous downpour of rain on Thursday and Friday had the desired effect of increasing the volume of the streams, the gauge at Kelso Bridge showing 4 feet of flood water on the latter day. This rise in the rivers has not in the least, however, improved salmon angling, which pursuit has all but been a blank during the past ten days, and may now be said to be over for the season. The only salmon that has been reported captured since last writing has been one of 8 lb., secured by Mr. C. Kerss, on the Sprouston water on Monday. As above stated, trout fishing has been, on the other hand, productive of fair sport. On Saturday, on the Tweed, Mr. P. Jack, Kelso, fishing with minnow, captured nineteen trout, which weighed 12 lb.; on the same day, Mr. G. Reid and Mr. J. Chisholm, Kelso, had each 6 lb. On the Teviot, Mr. T. Dickson had 6 lb.; Mr. J. Oliver, 8 lb.; Mr. James Robertson, 3 lb.; Mr. James, Edinburgh, 4½ lb.; Mr. G. Brown, Kelso, 5 lb.; and Mr. Kerr, Edinburgh, 4½ lb. The reports from the Whitadder and Blackadder state that during last week these rivers were in excellent order for fly fishing, and some good sport was had. Trout are said to be fairly plentiful in both rivers, though, as usual, a large proportion of the Whitadder trout are small in size. Baskets of from 4 to 12 lb. were made on the Whitadder. Heavy baskets were also made on the Blackadder, several large trout being taken with worm. The reports from the Tweed Net Fishings at Berwick state that no improvement is to be noted in the take there, and salmon and trout were on Wednesday selling at 1s. 7d. per lb.—MAXWELL, Kelso.

Wharfe (Yorkshire).

There is very little doing at present worthy of notice: the wind keeps in a cold quarter, and the trout rise anything but freely. One evening last week (Thursday) the yellow dun was out very strongly, but the fish disdained to accept any imitation of it; even dotterel and yellow was of no avail. I tried everything I had in my book, but all to no purpose, the only fish that I took being a large grayling (which I, of course, returned to his native element) and two small trout, and these fell victims to a prize scale-fly, which I obtained from our worthy Editor last autumn, and which I tried in sheer desperation. All anglers are earnestly praying for a change in affairs, and certainly not without reason. There was a splendid water on Saturday last, but nothing was done with fly. I caught four good trout with worm, and Dr. R. had eight nice fish, with the minnow, but he had to work very hard for them. The secretary of the Otley Club took nine trout on Thursday week, with fly, and these are the only catches that have come under my notice. Yellow partridge, waterhen and yellow, black spider, and yellow dotterel will kill when the fish get a chance to rise at fly, which desirable event your humble servant, in common with other expectant anglers, devoutly hopes will soon come to pass, meantime we live in hope.—FRANCIS M. WALBRAN.

Wye and Derwent.

Sport on both of the above rivers has been very uncertain with the artificial flies during the past week, owing to thunder clouds hanging about on most days the whole of the week, and fish have risen very shyly; consequently only small baskets have been made, although there have been great quantities of natural flies out on both streams. We have had very many anglers out on all of the Derbyshire rivers lately, but very little doing. The bottom fishers, on various parts of the Derwent, have killed some nice trout by fishing early and late with ant eggs and maggots for baits. I hear of several good eels being killed on "light lines" below Darley Bridge with lob worms for baits. Sport on the ponds both by trolling and fly fishing has been very low. The black gnat and Derbyshire red-ribbed with gold twist are the two best killing flies just now.—GEO. JAS. EATON.

Yare (Norwich).

From some cause, the usual beginners on the stream have not yet put in an appearance, and everything at present is slow; an occasional visitor seems to be the tale all down the river, but no life amongst the angling fraternity is yet displayed; the weather is just now very tempting, and I expect many will not withstand its allurements. The clubs in this city are now beginning to make arrangements for their annual matches and summer outings. I anticipate quite a large addition of enthusiastic disciples of old Isaac, as several influential gentlemen have joined different leading clubs here, which must have its weight with those who doubt whether angling is the correct thing. Some good rudd have been taken during the week, but with regard to other fish the news is very meagre, those who have tried, say nothing, which I always feel speaks volumes for their want of success. I believe that with a good stock of gentles and redworms, some good sport may be had now morning and evening—gentles for choice, also white paste if fishing at Brundall or Buckenham. Prospects good.—ROBERT MOLL.

FISHING IN THE ISLE OF MAN.

SIR,—Can you or any of your numerous subscribers give me a little information with regard to the freshwater fishing in the Isle of Man? I have heard that an Act has been passed making it necessary to take out a license to fish there, and that even then the property holders (many of them being opposed to this Act) will not allow you to go upon their land to fish. Any information upon this subject, also where the license is to be procured, and where to fish will be thankfully accepted by
F. LAYCOCK.

Bradford, May 19.

[In our issue for April 14, 1883, we published a letter on this subject from "A Disappointed Angler." Perhaps some reader can tell us if the restrictions on angling have been enforced, and where licenses can be procured.—ED.]

HARDY BROTHERS' FISHING RODS.

MESSRS. HARDY, Brothers, fishing rod and tackle makers, Alnwick, have long held a high position locally for the great care they bestow upon the fishing rods and tackle made by them, and their fame has now been spread to all parts of the world through the instrumentality of the International Fisheries Exhibition held in London last year. Messrs. Hardy received the highest award at the Exhibition for their split-cane rods, and in the past few months orders for rods and tackle have been received from many parts of Europe, India, New Zealand, and America. Among the latest additions to their customers are the King of the Belgians and his brother, Count de Flanders, both of whom have ordered split-cane rods and a large supply of tackle.—*Newcastle Journal*.

THE DOVEY.—ILLEGAL SALMON FISHING.

SINGULAR PROCEEDINGS.

AT the last petty session held at Machynlleth, before the Marquis of Londonderry, Lord Henry Vane Tempest, &c. &c., an English gentleman living at Esgair named Chas. Drew was summoned by the Conservancy Board for having illegally taken a salmon in the river Dovey on the 2nd April, during close season. Mr. W. R. Davies, Dolgelly, appeared for the Board, and Mr. Griffiths Jones, Aberystwyth, for the defendant. In this case the defendant had not been informed by Griffin, the river watcher, who got a ticket and license for him, that he would do wrong to fish in April. Griffin had pointed out the best pools to defendant, smoked with him, and helped himself to the whisky flask when going from pool to pool with him. Defendant "tipped" the keeper. The case was withdrawn against Mr. Drew on payment of costs.

A charge was then proceeded with against Mr. Arnold, who pleaded guilty, and stated that he did not know that salmon fishing did not commence in the Dovey before the 1st of May. He was fined £2, including costs.

David Griffiths, an old river watcher, was charged with having illegally fished in the river Turnin on the 16th April. Defendant was fined £1, including costs.

THE NATIONAL CLUBS' COMPETITION ON LOCH LEVEN.

THIS interesting competition, got up by the West of Scotland Angling Club, came off on Wednesday on Loch Leven. The weather in the morning was cloudy, with a light westerly wind, which continued moderate all day. The Club had 18 boats engaged, with 36 competitors, who, after handling the rod from 9 a.m. till 5.45, reported an aggregate of 138 trout—129 lbs. 4½ oz. There were six prizes, consisting of £12, £8, £6, £5, £4, and £2, besides £2 for the heaviest trout, £1 to the boatmen in the first-prize boat, and 10s. to those in the second-prize boat. The prizes were gained as follows:

		Trout.	lbs.	oz.
1st	Mr. M'Kenzie, Manchester	10	10	2
2nd	Mr. James Harris, Kinross	9	9	13
3rd	Mr. James Fenton, Perthshire	7	7	10
4th	Mr. P. D. Malloch, Perth	10	6	10
5th	Mr. Elder, West of Scotland	6	6	6
6th	Mr. Anderson, The Wanderers	11	5	14

The heaviest trout was killed by Dr. Brunton, London, of the Piscatorial Club, and weighed 2 lb. 9 oz.; and the boats which gained the first and second prizes were the Jane Kennedy and The Clutha. The following is a list of the total baskets:—

		Trout.	lbs.	oz.
Mr. Anderson, The Wanderers	.. ..	11	5	14
Mr. Barnett, Kinross-shire,	.. ..	2	1	2
Mr. D. B. M'Gregor, West of Scotland	.. ..	6	4	3
Mr. Bremner, West End, Dundee,	.. ..	8	5	0
Mr. Greig, Walton, Dundee,	.. ..	3	3	4
Mr. Wilson, West of Scotland,	.. ..	5	4	0
Mr. Fortune, Dunfermline	.. ..	3	1	9
Mr. Gardiner, Kinross-shire,	.. ..	6	4	10
Mr. J. B. Mills, Dundee,	.. ..	3	3	2
Mr. J. Stewart, Buckland,	.. ..	7	5	12
Mr. Henderson, West of Scotland,	.. ..	No report.		
Mr. W. B. Thomson, Perth,	.. ..	6	3	8
Mr. Harvey, Buckland	.. ..	6	5	4
Mr. Elder, West of Scotland	.. ..	6	6	6
Mr. Rhynd, Walton, Edinburgh,	.. ..	1	1	10
Mr. Gibson, Walton, Edinburgh	.. ..	6	4	0
Mr. Bogie, Kinross-shire	.. ..	3	1	8
Mr. Allum, Bridge of Allan	.. ..	7	5	8
Mr. Bell, Dundee	.. ..	No report.		
Mr. Houston, Rowbank	.. ..	No report.		
Mr. J. Christie, Blairgowrie	.. ..	4	4	6½
Mr. J. Harrie, Kinross	.. ..	9	9	13
Mr. Russell, Rowbank	.. ..	No report.		
Mr. P. D. Malloch, Perth	.. ..	10	6	10
Mr. Richardson, Hamilton	.. ..	No report.		
Mr. O' Hanlon, Manchester	.. ..	5	3	12
Mr. Melvin, Clackmannanshire	.. ..	2	1	8
Mr. Girdwood, St. Mungo	.. ..	8	5	11
Mr. D. M'Intyre, Dundee	.. ..	5	4	8
Mr. D. Ireland, Dundee	.. ..	6	3	13
Dr. Brunton, Piscatorial, London	.. ..	3	5	3
Mr. James Fenton, Perthshire	.. ..	7	7	10
Mr. Mackenzie, Manchester	.. ..	10	10	

There were other three competitors who gave in no report.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

- H. W. B.—We recommend you to get "The Management of Fisheries," by Francis Francis, published at the *Field* office. You will want considerable capital, and require to give great attention to it before you will make trout breeding a "very profitable business," and must be prepared for much worry and disappointment. In our opinion, artificial trout breeding is being very much overdone on some rivers—especially on the Wandle. The Wandle trout, twenty years ago, were as fine a strain as you would meet with anywhere, and fish of 3 lb. and 4 lb. were not uncommon. Now the river swarms with small fish of a mongrel kind, some quite white, and some quite black, with here and there one of the old, handsome, golden-sided, brown-backed, well-marked fellows.
- L. ANDOVER.—It is always best to use a taper line. Either let your winch line be tapered, or else (as we prefer) taper your gut cast from fairly stout down to the finest you may require.
- A. P., 39, Mark Lane.—We strongly advise you to get Messrs. Little and Co.'s (15, Fetter Lane) "Angler's Annual for 1884," price 1s. It gives particulars of the fishing to be had at thousands of places.
- H. SMITH.—If you merely ask for a sample without sending stamps, we do not wonder you got no reply. You perhaps are not aware that fly makers naturally object to send samples gratis, or even when paid for, as they know well enough in many cases the sample will be sent to someone to copy, who charges a low price, and doubtless produces rubbish.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

ANGLERS' RAILWAY PRIVILEGE TICKETS.

SIR.—I do not wonder that the railways have abolished the privilege tickets, as, having friends residing at Esher, Walton, Weybridge, and Byfleet, I know they are much pestered with some of these Sunday men, and are obliged to keep servants on the look out to prevent a few of these anglers from trespassing on their grounds adjoining, or near, the South-Western Railway. At Esher, for instance, the river Mole runs through private grounds. The old river Wey the same, and from Seven Arches up to, and beyond, Byfleet it is all private, and mostly in the hands of farmers who are tenants of the Hon. Locke King. I have fished these waters for many years, and always had leave willingly granted me, *but not to fish on Sundays*. The landowners go to church with their wives and families, and object to strangers fishing the river on Sundays. They dread when the angling season commences next month. The river Wey is a nice bank angler's paradise, and it is a pity the residents should be annoyed by men fishing without leave. No doubt the residents have complained to the directors of the South-Western Railway, and hence the result. As a rule, the members of the associations are respectable men, and enjoy their Sunday outing. I am glad they do, as I see no harm in Sunday fishing where it is not an annoyance to others.—I am, &c.,

T. R. SACHS.

NATIONAL FISH CULTURE ASSOCIATION, SOUTH KENSINGTON.

SIR,—Having been requested by Mr. W. Oldham Chambers to lend some of my fish specimens and paintings, by H. L. Rolfe and other artists, I readily acceded to his desire, and at the same time regretted I could not supply more fish in cases, as fifteen of my specimens are lent to the South Kensington museum, and now on view in the Buckland museum.

On each of my pictures and fish cases, and those of my daughters, I had labels with names in black and gold, gummed to the exhibits. Some spiteful individual, however, took the trouble to rub out the names, &c., from all the pictures and fish cases. There is only one man I know who could be guilty of such a mean act; and although he may "pooh, pooh" it, he is behaving in a another matter in an unfriendly angler way to me at the present time.

Mr. W. Oldham Chambers and assistants are much annoyed it should have happened, and they would very much like to know who the perpetrator was. It matters little—it pleases him and hurts me not. Mr. W. O. C. deserves much praise for the excellent show of fish and the extra large tanks containing fine specimens of salmon and trout of various kinds.

Each visitor should purchase the handbook to the aquarium, price three-pence; it gives the whole history of the fishes, with 60 capital illustrations, and is very instructive to old and young.—I am, &c.,

T. R. SACHS.

THE HERTFORD FISHERY.

SIR,—My attention has been called to a letter in your last issue signed "Noblesse Oblige," respecting this fishery. In the first place allow me to state that the Town Council have nothing to do with the water; the right belongs to the Marquis of Salisbury of whom I lease it.

In reference to working men fishing without tickets, this I distinctly deny, and challenge the writer to prove a single instance this season of anyone fishing without one. The "working men" referred to by him happen to be engaged in very respectable vocations such as a farrier, cabinet maker, and the son of a licensed victualler, all of whom have tickets. It is true, they indulged in a little chaff with "Noblesse Oblige" as to worm fishing, as it appears he was quite horrified to find anyone fishing in the water, other than with a fly, and expressed himself in such a manner that was rather amusing to the so-called working men. I am sorry "Noblesse Oblige" has not had any sport. He has evidently been unlucky, as others have had some very good takes. In conclusion I can only say that as the subscription is only 5s. the whole season, I cannot see how "Noblesse Oblige" or any other reasonable person can expect the water to be used exclusively for fly fishing.—I am, &c.,

Hertford, 21st May.

THE LESSEE.

POACHING IN THE RIVER LEA.

SIR,—On several occasions lately the water of the Lea in this neighbourhood has been drawn off by the Lea Conservancy. The consequence has been that the fish poachers, in defiance of the Mundella Act, have been actively at work. Only yesterday I was requested by one of the keenest and best fly fishermen in this part, to decide as to the species of a fish that was being hawked about for sale, and said to be a barbel. I at once pronounced the fish to be a very fine

specimen of the common carp, weighing close upon eight pounds. It will doubtless be gratifying to the members of the Amwell Magna fishing club to hear that this fish was poached out of their water. The last time the water was drawn off, some of our *πολλοι* managed to secure a jack of about thirteen pounds, which they were about to walk off with; but a policeman happening to see the fish, made its captors restore it to the water. I think the numerous angling clubs could not do better than make up a purse to reward this policeman. Angling clubs are so numerous, that if each club only gave a shilling it would amount to something handsome. On the same day that the above-mentioned carp was captured, a splendid jack of about fifteen pounds was caught, and I am told that its captor, to prevent the police obliging him to restore the fish alive to the water, cut it in two!—I am, &c.,

Springfield, Ware.

C. E. HOLFORD.

A FINE LEA TROUT.

SIR,—A very nice trout was taken by a young man on Friday morning last in the free water of the little river Lea (situate between this village and the Abbey Town), length $22\frac{1}{4}$ in., breadth $5\frac{1}{2}$ in., weight 5 lb. (less 2 oz.).

The fish was captured in a rather extraordinary manner. Several local anglers had been fishing for him for some days, but without success, although one or two had their bait taken. But it appears that a lad left his rod lying on the bank, and his hook (of course, baited) in the water, while he went to breakfast, when the trout took the bait, and dragged line, rod, &c., into river, swam off under the bridge, where, getting into difficulties with weeds, &c., he was assisted out of his trouble by the young man aforesaid, who seeing his rod, threw a line over it, and brought fish, line, and rod safely to land.

Since writing the above, Mr. Wheeler's son, of the King's Arms, took a handsome trout, weight $4\frac{1}{2}$ lb., from the Barge river, close to his house.—I am, &c.,

R. J.

Waltham New Town, Herts.

P. S.—Can you give me a positive answer to this question? Is there any license required for trout fishing?

[Not on the Lea, or anywhere, except in a fishery district, and where imposed by its Board.—ED.]

ERRATUM.

SIR,—Kindly allow me to correct a mistake in my letter in the *GAZETTE* of May 17th. I am made to say "I got a brace of trout, 1 lb. 2 oz.," whereas it should have been "1 lb. 2 oz., and 2 lb. 3 oz." It is not of much consequence, perhaps; but when I have had leave to fish club waters, and private waters, where fish under 1 lb. are not basketed, a statement in print that I bagged, on the Test, a brace of half-pounders, is hardly to be tolerated. As a matter of fact, I have returned every fish this season which was not well up to the one pound limit. The omission on the printer's part was singularly unfortunate.—I am, &c.,

H. S. HALL.

FISHING NEAR BRIDPORT.

SIR,—I shall be much obliged to any of your readers if they will give me some information about the fishing near Bridport.—I am, &c.,

KENNICK.

[The "Angler's Diary" refers to some trout streams in the neighbourhood, including the Axe, and also says there is good sea-fishing; but perhaps some correspondent can give Kennick a few details as to where strangers can get trout-fishing, and on what terms.—ED.]

PIKE SCALE FLIES.

SIR,—I have such a number of letters asking the dressing of the "Marston" fly that it would take up too much time to answer them all, and as all the inquirers are readers of the *FISHING GAZETTE*, perhaps you will allow me to give the dressing. Body: Hare's ear, or in preference to that, fur from a young rabbit's back. Hackle: Fur roughly pricked out all along body. Tail: Two or three fibres of a red feather from golden pheasant's breast. Wings: Scales.

I noticed that you remarked that I had no doubt christened it the "Marston" because you always send for this pattern; but this is not the reason. It is simply from the fact that you were the first amateur who ever used it in angling, as I know it was that pattern you had from me at Edinburgh Exhibition, and fished with it above Loch Vennachar the same week.—I am, &c.,

Bohally, Pitlochry, N. B.

JAMES MACNEE.

A QUERY.

SIR,—Would you kindly inform me, through your valuable paper, whether there are any species of freshwater fish, with the exception of carp and tench, that make that peculiar smacking noise on the pond top?—I am, &c.,

A NOVICE.

[Only frogs, as far as we remember.—ED.]

WHAT PARISH IS CHERTSEY LOCK IN?

SIR,—In a certain angling society a prize was given to be fished for at Chertsey, and was taken by a member who fished off the Lock.

The member who had the next highest gross weight of fish now objects to the winner on the ground that he did not fish at Chertsey but in Laleham, as (so he states) one side of the river is in Chertsey and the other in Laleham parish. Would you kindly inform me, through your columns, if this is correct? I can hardly imagine it is, as the Lock is called Chertsey Lock, and is on the opposite side of the river to that which the member asserts is in Chertsey parish.—I am, &c.,

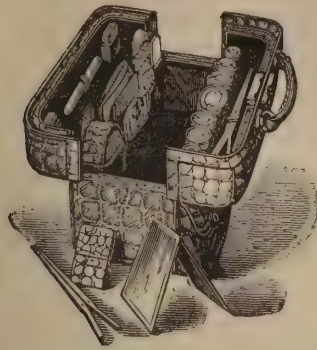
G. T. CLARKE.

Great Putney Street, W.

[Chertsey Lock House, and, consequently, the Lock, stands in Surrey, although on the Middlesex side of the river. Traces are yet in existence of the curved channel in which the Thames here ran. Ergo, if the fish were caught in the so-called Chertsey Lock, they were caught in Chertsey parish.—ED.]

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	Friday Night, May 30	Saturday, May 31	Whit-Monday June 2
From	A	B	C
Euston Station	8 a.m.	8 a.m.	8 a.m.
	12 1	7 30	8 50
	p.m.		11 20
Broad Street	10 55	6 45	8 20
Kensington (Addison Rd.)...	11 38	7 53	42 11
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LINES.—Gut, 3 yards, 3d., 4d., and 6d. each. FISHING GAZETTE Gossamer gut, Tapered, 8d. each; Salmon, 3 yards, 8d. to 1s. 9d., twisted do., 1s. 6d. each; Hair, 3 yards, 3d. and 4d.; Nottingham silk twist, 10 yards, 3d., stout, 4d. Best 8-plate silk line, 25 yards, 1s., 1s. 3d., and 1s. 6d.; prepared ditto, 20 yards, 1s., stout, 1d. per yard; good gut, 12 in., 1s. per hank, about 100 strips; 14 in. 1s. 6d.; Gossamer gut, 12 in. 3s. 6d.; 14 in. 4s. 6d.

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Contributions are solicited, but the Editor will not undertake to return rejected MSS. unless accompanied with a stamped addressed envelope.
Correspondents are requested to write on one side of the paper only, and give their real names and addresses, not necessarily as signatures to their letters, but as a guarantee of good faith. Unless this rule be adhered to, no notice will be taken of such communications.

THE FISHING GAZETTE is published every Saturday, and can be obtained at Messrs. W. H. Smith and Son's Railway Bookstalls, and of the principal Newsagents and Fishing Tackle Dealers in London and the Provinces.

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The Fishing Gazette.

SATURDAY, MAY 31, 1884.

THE FOURTH ANNUAL "FISHING GAZETTE" ANGLERS' TOURNAMENT

(IN AID OF THE ANGLERS' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY),

ON JULY 26, 1884.

THE verdict on the previous Anglers' Tournaments was that they were decidedly of a very interesting and useful nature, and Mr. R. B. Marston has often been congratulated on having introduced these meetings.

The forthcoming Tournament promises to be of a more generally interesting character than ever, and we beg to draw the attention of our readers to the programme which we publish on page 262, and also to the fact that Mr. Geo. M. Kelson has kindly consented not only to be present, but also to take an active part in the fly-casting arrangements, as will be seen from the following:—

MR. KELSON'S GENERAL INVITATION TO SALMON ANGLERS TO COMPETE AT THE TOURNAMENT, JULY 26.

ON Saturday, July 26, the Annual Angling Tournament will take place on the lake at the Welsh Harp, Hendon—a few minutes' ride from King's Cross Junction, St. Pancras, or by the Midland.

Mr. Kelson has kindly undertaken the management and supervision of the salmon anglers' competition, for which two or three pretty little prizes are offered.

Hitherto, the salmon casts were demonstrated from a platform. Upon the last occasion, owing to an adverse wind, its position was not a favourable one, but, indeed, so unfavourable, that the record, though really good in the estimation of those present, will probably be exceeded this year. It is a good cast in dead water to propel 37 or 38 yards of line overhand with an 18-foot salmon rod in this country. Anglers know that our English lines are made heavy to throw from the butt of the rod, and that the American produce, in comparison, may almost be called "blow lines," as they are very light, and are manufactured to suit their rods, which play only in the upper joints. The consequence is that in a gale of wind the Americans "walk in," and we hear it reported, and see it in print, that some one or the other of them has thrown considerably over 40 yards. We can only conclude that this was with the wind.

Mr. Kelson will decide upon the day whether this platform is to be shifted to more favourable quarters, or whether the casts are to be made from the bank. We cannot, therefore, inform our readers yet, if the judging will be as usual or not; but they may rest assured that the comfort and convenience of the visitors in this, as in all other matters, will be carefully considered and provided for. Any arrangement this gentleman may make will most probably meet with general approval, and we trust that his invitation may be freely accepted, so that the Londoners may have another opportunity of seeing what can be done with a salmon rod.

The prizes for this section are as follows:—

PRIZE I.

GOLD EGG-CUP, with suitable inscription, for the Longest Overhand Salmon Cast to be made with any kind of rod, not exceeding 18 feet in length from the button.

PRIZE II.

A SILVER EGG-CUP (also inscribed), for the Longest Cast with a rod not exceeding 16 feet in length from the button.

PRIZE III.

A FOLDING SALMON LANDING NET, for the Longest Switch Cast.

When six feet only will be allowed behind the competitor, who will be disqualified if any part of the rod or line should, while making the cast, extend beyond that limit.

THE CONDITIONS ARE AS FOLLOWS:—

- I.—Each competitor to be in readiness and to proceed when called upon by Mr. Kelson to do so.
- II.—Five minutes will be allowed for each competitor to make his cast.
- III.—Each competitor must have a treble and single gut trace attached to his line, the former not to be less than 1 yard in length; the latter, not less than 14 inches.
- IV.—Each competitor to use one of the flies which will be provided.
- V.—Any competitor entering for Prize No. 2 who shall make a longer cast than any one of those competing for Prize No. 1 shall be entitled to his choice of any one of these prizes in exchange.
- VI.—Gentlemen will be allowed to enter in assumed names, and an entrance fee of 5s. to be paid by all competitors.

The Americans declare they can cast as far with a 16-foot rod as with one 18 feet in length. Mr. Kelson has amply provided for this rather remote contingency by Rule V. There are also many gentlemen in this country unaccustomed to an 18-foot rod, who fish and command the catches in their own districts with a small rod—they, too, will be favoured by this rule; but we doubt whether any 16-foot rod can possibly win the "golden honours."

Long casting has been a subject for much comment from time to time, and as we know it is absolutely necessary for a salmon fisherman to be able to manage a long line occasionally, so we are pleased to have an opportunity of encouraging it. Mr. Kelson holds that if a fish is properly "hit," as he described in the FISHING GAZETTE of 8th March last, it is immaterial whether the strike is made at twenty or thirty yards—the result is the same, or, rather, it should be.

There can be no shadow of doubt the nearer one gets to his fish the better it is under control; but often salmon anglers are engaged in a good "up-and-down mill" sixty, seventy, or even a hundred yards off; and when their fish has been struck in the way advocated in Mr. Kelson's articles, how rarely it is that the "hold," even after an hour's fight, has been torn or enlarged. Why did Mr. Kelson suggest the late improvement in the patent lever winches? Why did Mr. Ridley devote years to his lines?

Because salmon originally out of reach might be hooked, and, when hooked, could be mastered.

But to return to our subject. We suggest that competitors should loop their single to the treble gut. There will be a few spare 14-inch lengths of single ready with a fly attached to each, in case of accident; but, whatever accident may happen to either rods or lines, Rule No. 2 must be strictly adhered to.

Intending competitors, or any gentlemen wishing for further information, would do well to address

MR. GEO. M. KELSON,
13, Colville Mansions, W.

We are in hopes of getting Mr. Kelson to include the management of the trout fly casting as well as the salmon. For further particulars see programme, page 262.

THE ANGLERS' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

APPEAL FOR PRIZES FOR THE TOURNAMENT.

THE object of the Tournament being chiefly to benefit that most deserving charitable institution, THE ANGLERS' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY, we confidently appeal to our readers to aid the Committee by offering prizes to be competed for. The Committee and other officers of the Tournament give their services gratuitously. They know, as we know, the great good which the Anglers' Benevolent Society does in quietly and unostentatiously giving relief to needy or afflicted anglers after full proof that the distress is genuine. How it would open the purse-strings of many of our readers to whom the Anglers' Benevolent Society is only a name if they could be present, as we have been, at one of the meetings of the Committee and listen to the appeal from the destitute widow and little ones of some dead angler who was a member of the society. The appeal is considered, a member is deputed to make inquiries, and at the next meeting (unless prompt relief is necessary) someone appears on

behalf of the applicant (generally two members of the club to which the member belonged), and a sum ranging from 10s. to £10 is voted. Unfortunately, the Committee are often compelled by their limited funds to do but half what the case calls for. The weather at previous Tournaments has affected the sale of tickets of admission most unfortunately, but we confidently look for a very large attendance on July 26.

As an extra inducement to our friends in the fishing-tackle trade to offer prizes, we will undertake to give not only an acknowledgment, but also a notice of every article they send us marked, *For notice in GAZETTE and then to be given as a prize in the Tournament.* Several prizes have already been promised by the following:—Mr. Thomas Spreckley, president of the Thames Angling Preservation Association and president of the Anglers' Benevolent Society; Mr. E. Marston; Mr. R. B. Marston, Editor of the FISHING GAZETTE; Mrs. R. B. Marston; Mr. P. Geen; Mr. W. Thomas (silver cup, value two guineas); Mr. T. Crumplen; Mr. Andrews, of Cheltenham; the Proprietors of the FISHING GAZETTE; the "Trent Otter"; Mr. Marriott; Mr. Bullock, of Derby; Mr. Parker (a silver-plated cup); Mr. Day, and others.

Offers of prizes can be sent to

THE EDITOR OF THE "FISHING GAZETTE,"
12 and 13, Fetter Lane,
London.

A LOVELY BRACE OF THAMES TROUT.

MR. J. P. WHEELDON called on Thursday to show us a very pretty sight indeed—a Thames trout of 5 lb. and one of 10 lb. and over, both in the pink of condition. The fish were caught almost opposite Hampton Court Palace, and Mr. Wheeldon lost a much larger fish, which he estimates at 15 lb., after having a long fight with it, in the course of which it repeatedly threw itself clean out of the water—not a usual dodge on the part of the Thames trout. The 10-pounder took three-quarters of an hour to kill on the finest Nottingham tackle. We heartily congratulate Mr. Wheeldon on his renewed success. His puntsman was John Smith, of Hampton Court. The increase of Thames trout is only one gratifying result of the thorough manner in which the fishery from Staines to Richmond is protected by the Thames Angling Preservation Society.

NOTTINGHAM ROACH LINES.

MR. JOHN WELLS, of 13, London Road, Nottingham, sends us the following note. The lines are 80 yard Nottingham silk twist, very nicely made, and just the thing for fine fishing in the scientific Nottingham style. They are wonderfully strong and very cheap:—

SIR.—I noticed, in a recent number of the "F. G.," a particular line of yours, of which you would favour any one with a few inches by special request. Will you please favour me with a sample? At the same time allow me to request your acceptance of a couple of roach lines, of my own manufacture.—I am, &c.,
JOHN WELLS.

Some of our readers will be glad to know that Mr. Wells supplies the celebrated Nottingham lobworm.

THE COUNTRY GENTLEMAN'S REFERENCE CATALOGUE.—This admirably arranged catalogue of the best works on Agriculture, Sport, Gardening, Botany, Horses, Poultry, &c., &c., can be had, price 6d., of Messrs. Barnicott and Son, Booksellers, Fore Street, Taunton. There is a good list of works on fish and fishing.

MR. G. E. SIMMS, of Oxford, has discovered that the bladder-traps of *Utricularia vulgaris* are capable of catching newly-hatched fish and killing them. The plant catches the fish generally by the head, which is pushed into the bladder in the specimens observed until the snout touches the hinder wall. Mr. Simms gives on the next page an account of his observations. A preliminary notice by Mr. N. Moseley appears in this week's *Nature*. From the description it would appear as though the fish entered the trap and were then seized. Some of the fish are, however, caught by the tail, but the actual process has not yet been observed.

THE INTERNATIONAL HEALTH EXHIBITION.—On Saturday last, upon the occasion of the Queen's birthday, was inaugurated, at the International Health Exhibition, South Kensington, the first of a series of fetes which, it is understood, will be held on Wednesday and Saturday evenings ("when the weather permits") through the season in the shape of extra grand illuminations, combined with a magnificent display of hydraulics. The executive have entrusted the illuminations to Mr. James Pain, who may almost be said to have outstripped every previous effort in the very beautiful designs with which he has decorated the vicinity of the lake of the Royal Horticultural Gardens. By permission of the King of the Belgians the band of the Guides, considered one of the finest in Europe, commenced on Monday last a fortnight's engagement, and will play alternately with the Grenadier Guards' Band under Mr. Dan Godfrey. On Saturday, June 7, the band of the 7th Magdeburg Cuirassiers, known as the "White," or "Prince Bismarck's Regiment," and considered the finest cavalry band of the German Army, will commence a month's engagement, and they are to be succeeded in July by the magnificent band of the French Engineers from Versailles, numbering eighty-two performers.

FIRST ARTICLE ON THE DESCRIPTION OF SALMON FLIES.

By Mr. GEO. M. KELSON.

BLUEBELL.

I DID not intend, until the standard colours were introduced, to commence this subject; but it has been suggested to me that, as some of Major Traherne's patterns were made pretty much with natural material, undyed, I might start this series of articles by illustrating a few of them.

When the standard colours are established, there should be no difficulty whatever in dressing any specimen if it were properly described. It is most disappointing to a salmon fisherman not to be able to get a fly true to pattern—indeed, it is most annoying.

Who has not heard, at one time or another, that "deep sigh" when a new packet of flies has been undone? Does not that sigh suggest all kinds of unmentionable curses?

Now I am almost of opinion that if all the corduroy gods of calumny were to shower their "Billingsgate brogue" upon some of our persistent, though innocent, manufacturers, it would not prevent odd bits of material—patches of pothouse plumes—being whipped in for the cloak of convenience, which we all so frequently see disfiguring many of their samples.

There really is but one remedy to override this whirlwind of such a contemptible custom, and to overcome this increasing violation, this incorrect and inharmonious dressing; just put "Not known," and, like a dead letter, return the parcel of profaned patterns to the maker.

I am occasionally witnessing the work of one or two of our best men, which "speaks for itself" to anyone who is familiar with the standard patterns; it is naturally well done, and that, too, from memory. Even they would do well to sacrifice this "straightforward reflection," and work upon principle. Let almost anyone advertise and dress flies made true to standard patterns—they would soon glory in their success; they would soon make for themselves a tower of reputation which no thunder-crash could lower, no storm of Time destroy.



MAJOR TRAHERNE'S PATTERNS OF SALMON FLIES.—NO. 1.

"Bluebell" is one of the most useful flies I have seen for many years. Dressed to the required size, it would probably move the sulkiest fish in any river. It has for some time proved itself a tip-top fly, and it is made as follows:—

Tag: Silver twist, and blue silk the same shade as the Macaw feathers.

Tail: Topping.

Butt: Black herl.

Body: Orange silk, to that part of the hook midway between the throat and tag; the rest blue silk. The former the same shade as the rind of a darkish orange, the latter the same as in the tag.

Ribbed: Silver lace, and silver tinsel.

Hackle: Blue macaw, from blue silk.

Throat: Yellow macaw.

Wings: Red macaw.

Sides: Jungle fowl.

Horns: Blue macaw, with a topping over.

Head: Black herl.

There are no salmon flies in creation requiring so much patient work to dress well as Major Traherne's. This one is a very simple pattern comparatively, and could be made at a quarter the price of many of his others.

This gentleman, in the stream of Time from practical experience, has stored a rare stock of the great and fundamental truths in angling, and also of the laws of its operation, which are undoubtedly as fixed and unalterable as those which govern the stars.

He has availed himself of every opportunity to develop his talent; he has hurried away from what is generally styled "that snug retreat"—Self; and he is doing the piscatorial world a real good turn by allowing his brilliant patterns to be published, which, in many rivers, are simply irresistible.

We are told, and we believe, that the component parts of certain chemical substances, when once their union is dissolved, recede farther and farther from each other, as if animated by as strong a repulsion as formerly they were governed by a strong attraction.

Now, we should not come to any hasty or adverse opinion about salmon flies by merely handling them, unless we thoroughly understand them.

I may mention that, as a rule, it is only by very long experience we learn that however unsightly or unblending some special shades of feathers may appear in certain lights, they represent when under the water totally opposite appearances with the fibres separated, and the action of the water having changed their tone. And so all "chemical ruling," or the frame of "Artist's lofty laws," may be "skied" by the artificial entomologist, for sometimes a little delicate deviation not only grasps excellence, but secures success.

Every fisherman should learn to make his own flies. It is astonishing how one gains by even a little knowledge in this respect, which, like a small hole in a garment, may be the beginning of an extensive one.

Learn, and learn early; for it is then that we are the better adapted for taking correct impressions, so that in the future we may combine those images which, like a spell, have been deposited in our memory.

This pattern can be purchased of the following makers:—

Messrs. Farlow and Co., Strand.
Mr. Bernard, Church Place, Piccadilly.
Mr. James Wright, Sprouston, Kelso.
Mr. Malloch, High Street, Perth.

THE DON (ABERDEENSHIRE).

If the Bill now before a Committee of the House receives the sanction of Parliament, Lord Huntly, Sir Charles Forbes, Bart., of the Newe, Dr. Farquharson, of Finzean, M.P., and other promoters of the Deeside, Strathdon, and Strathspey Extension Railway, will have the credit of opening up to the tourist angler a number of the finest trouting streams which the North of Scotland contains. Hitherto, save in name, these rivulets have been little known except to the dwellers in the glens. In these regions the snort of the iron horse has never yet

"Broken the stillness of hill and glen,"
Or awed the spirits of mountain men."

Difficult of access, through a want of regularly established means of locomotion, the upper regions of Strathdon retain much of their primitive simplicity. Though a few enterprising anglers have penetrated the seclusion of the upland straths and discovered the haunts of the famous brook trout of the Don and its tributaries, the Deskoy, Nocht, Spearach, Ernan, and Bucket, the shepherds, gillies, and cottars have till now undoubtedly had the cream of piscatorial pleasure. Sport—talk of sport!—nowhere can better sport be obtained in May, June, and July. These streams swarm with trout, goodly-sized trout, and trout that take readily. Then in the straths of Don we do not know of a single place where a beginner could hope to receive a more encouraging commencement. This we say from what we know of tyros having accomplished. We need say no more regarding the tributaries of the Don at present; they will be returned to and described more fully by us ere long.

Pursuing the course of the Don, "leaping onward with the stream," we arrive in the famous Vale of Alford. Here there are two open (free) reaches of river, the one attached to the Houghton Arms (Mr. Brown's), and the other to the Bridge of Alford Hotel (Mr. Mitchell's). In April and May these show splendid sport, but the tyro here has little chance, as fine fishing is required. Both hotel keepers give a free permit to their guests to angle for salmon and trout. Fly-fishing being principally practised hereabout, angling nears its close toward the middle of June, as trout cease to rise freely. The flies used are similar to those already referred to in connection with our description of other parts of the Don, the only difference being that *all over* they ought to be brought into use about a fortnight later than on the Parkhill and Kintore waters. Good baskets of trout are invariably got on the Alford waters—12 to 15 lb. to a rod daily. Occasionally a few small salmon are landed during the trouting season. The Jock Scott, Childers, Butcher, and Lady Caroline are the favourite flies. Many enthusiastic anglers from England and the South of Scotland frequent Alford during the trouting season and enjoy the sport and change of air immensely. It is a lovely place; as a spring and early summer resort, it is all that could be desired.

Alford is the terminal point of the Alford Valley Section of the Great North of Scotland Railway. Proceeding the way of Aberdeen and down the river, we arrive at Kemnay. Here permission to angle on the river for trout can usually be obtained from Mr. Fyfe, granite merchant and contractor, a most genial, obliging, and hospitable gentleman. His splendid quarries and works are in every way worthy of a visit. At first, diverging away from and then approaching toward the river, the next station reached is Kintore—the connecting link with the main line. From this point we proceed northward to Inverurie, 3½ miles distant. The inhabitants of the Burgh of Inverurie have a right to two splendid reaches of water—one on the Don, the other on the Ury.

Not far from the confluence of these rivers stands the famous Bass, of Inverurie, a large grassy mound, regarding the origin of which there have been no end of dissertations, controversies, and several rhymes. Of the latter a single quotation will suffice:—

"The Dea and Don shall still run,
The Tweed shall run, and Tay;
But the bonnie water of Ury
Shall bear the Bass away."

The Don, in the vicinity of Inverurie, affords good sport to anglers for trout during the proper season. The Ury is also a well-fed and

excellent trouting stream. Though the trout are equally numerous in proportion to the size of the stream—perhaps more so—they do not possess the same quality as the Don trout. Permission to angle on both reaches is granted, free of charge, by the magistrates of the Burgh. On the Don attached water good success in angling for salmon is the rule in the "back end" of the season. This reach, however, is pretty much fished, and the proportion per rod, in consequence, not very high. Some local anglers, nevertheless, succeed admirably. Flies: Jock Scott, Butcher, Childers, Popham, Thunder and Lightning, Lady Caroline, Dr. Forbes, Grey Heron, and Minister. A suitably-sized assortment of these will be found to be the best range of lures which one could possibly possess. With a few "eagles"—grey and yellow—for evening fishing, the equipment is complete. Train direct from Aberdeen four or five times a day—half an hour's run. First-rate accommodation and every convenience at the Kintore Arms, Inverurie. Keith Hall, the family seat of the Earl of Kintore, with its extensive and beautifully-wooded grounds, stands on an eminence on the north bank of the Ury, about a mile and a half from the Burgh.

W. M.

A WOLF IN SHEEP'S CLOTHING.

A FISH-EATING PLANT.

I HAVE recently discovered amongst the aquatic weeds placed in my aquarium, where I have also a large number of newly-hatched perch and roach, a novel and unexpected enemy to the pisciculturist in the bladder traps of *Utricularia vulgaris*, which is capable of catching and killing young fry.

My attention was first drawn to it by observing that several of the tiny fish, without any apparent cause, were lying dead on the weeds, whilst the rest of the brood looked perfectly healthy and in good condition.

At first I was somewhat puzzled at the strange position in which they were lying, and on trying to move one with a small twig, I was still more surprised to find it was held fast by the head, in what I thought, when I pulled the plant from the water, were the seed vessels, and a still closer examination revealed the strange fact that others of the little fish had been trapped by the tail, and in one or two instances the head and tail of the same fish had been swallowed by adjacent bladders, thus forming with its body a connecting bar between the two.

At first I was undecided how to act, for I could bring to memory no instance in which I had seen the existence of a piscivorous plant—*i.e.*, one preying on vertebrates—recorded in any book I had ever read; and unwilling to make such an assertion without the opinion of some one better capable of forming a judgment on the subject than myself; so, I placed one or two good specimens in a glass jar and went to the Museum, where I was fortunate enough to see Professor Moseley, who immediately verified my suspicions.

According to Bentham's Handbook of British Flowering Plants, the *Utricularia vulgaris*, or greater bladder wort, is widely distributed over Britain, and although it is local, yet where it is found it grows luxuriantly, seldom appearing in the rivers, but chiefly confining its presence to still ponds and deep ditches, the places where it is most likely to work mischief to the young fry.

A peculiar fact in connection with it is, that it has no roots at any time of its life, and the floating, root-like branches which are covered with numerous capillary and much-divided leaves are interspersed with tiny green vesicles, which were supposed by a former school of botanists to be filled with water, by which means the plant was kept at the bottom until the time of flowering, when the water gave place to air, and the plant then rose to the surface to allow its bloom to expand.

As a matter of fact, these vesicles exercised no such function, their real work being to entrap minute crustaceans, worms, larvæ, &c., for its support, and without a good supply of which it is impossible to keep it alive in an aquarium.

Their form is that of a flattened ovoid sac, or, in other words, when seen under a low-power microscope, they are precisely like a human stomach, and they are attached at their hinder extremities, each by a very short and fine pedicle or foot-stalk in the axil of the leaves.

Each, too, has an opening at the opposite free extremity, somewhat quadrangular in outline, from either side of which project two branched processes, called by Mr. Darwin antennæ.

In fact, I do not suppose they could have received a more appropriate name, because in appearance the whole bladder intimately resembles an entomostrean crustacean, the short foot-stalk representing the tail.

On either side of the quadrangular entrance several long bristles project outwards, and these bristles, together with the branches of the antennæ, form a sort of hollow cone surrounding the entrance, which there cannot be the slightest doubt act as a guide for the prey towards it.

The entrance is closed by a valve, which, being attached above, slopes into the cavity of the bladder, and is attached to it on all sides except at its posterior or lower margin, which is free, and forms one side of the s'it-like opening leading into the bladder.

Differing materially from the colour of the bladder itself, which is of a brilliant green, the valve is colourless and transparent, and is extremely flexible and elastic.

Animals enter the bladders by bending inwards the posterior free edge of the valve, which, from being highly elastic, shuts again immediately.

The edge is extremely thin, and fits closely against the edge of

the collar both projecting into the bladder, and it is extremely difficult, if not impossible, for any animal to escape, although I have observed a long worm do so at the expense of a part of his body; yet, as a rule, it is a case of "all who enter here, lose hope."

To show how closely the edge fits, it was found that a daphnia, which had inserted its antennæ into the slit, was held fast a whole day, and on other occasions long narrow larvæ, both dead and alive, were seen wedged between the valve and the collar with their bodies half in and half out the vesicle.

When a fish is caught, the head is usually pushed as far into the bladder as possible till the snout touches the hinder wall.

The two black eyes of the fish then show out conspicuously through the wall of the bladder.

So far as is known, there is no digestive process in Utricularia, neither is there any sensibility to irritation. Mr. Darwin was unable to detect either, his opinion being that whatever nutriment the plant obtained from its prey was by absorption of the decaying matter, and it would appear that the longer of the two pairs of projections composing the quadrid processes by which the vesicles are lined, which project obliquely inwards and towards the end of the bladder, acts, together with the spring valves at the mouth of the bladder, in utilising each fresh struggle of the captive for the purpose of pushing it further inwards. If any of my readers wish for specimens of this interesting plant, I shall be enabled in a few days to forward them at a very nominal cost.

Of its destructive powers all I can say is, that out of 150 newly-hatched perch placed in a glass vessel, only one or two were alive two days subsequently, and I hope in a few days to be in a position to speak of its powers *in natura*.

I must also tender my hearty thanks to Professor Moseley for his unselfish kindness and courtesy in furnishing me with notes, and all necessary information, at a time when his hands are full with this term's work, and anyone who knows rightly of the duties of an Oxford professor will agree with me, the position is an arduous one. Such men as Professor Moseley are few and far between, for, like fishermen, I find that amongst scientific men there is an amount of jealousy which ought not to exist, and I therefore regard the action of Mr. Moseley in this matter with such feelings of gratitude as are not easily obliterated.

G. E. SIMMS, jun.

37, Broad Street, Oxford.

[We should feel obliged if our correspondent would send us a bit of the plant, with fish in its traps. His discovery is as important as it is deeply interesting.—ED.]

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

SPIDER, Bakewell.—The fly you send is the common female "Stone fly," called the May fly in some parts of Yorkshire, though it appears earlier than the green and grey drake known so generally as the May fly.—ED.

W. J. H., 28, Larkhall Rise, Clapham, S.W., asks where he can get good-sized carp, tench, and perch for stocking a pond, and the price. We cannot tell him. Fish got in this way have been poached from someone else's pond in nine cases out of ten.—ED.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

MR. R. D. BLACKMORE AND GREAT LOACHES.

SIR,—Reading Chapter VII. of that highly interesting work, "Lorna Doone," the other evening, I must say I was perfectly dumbfounded on reading the following:—"In sooth, there were very fine loaches here, having more lie and harbourage than in the rough Lynn stream, though not quite so large as in the Lowman, where I have even taken them to the weight of $\frac{1}{2}$ lb." I have caught as many loaches as here and there one, but this beats all I ever set eyes upon.

Is it possible the small fish of the genus *cobitis* could ever reach such a size? Have you ever heard of or seen such a specimen? Is this a different kind of loach from the ordinary stone loach? for there can be no question from the graphic description given it is the stone loach to which he refers, and none other.

Oh, very well; but why should they reach $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. in the Lowman, and certainly not 3 oz., and, as a rule, not more than 2 oz. in any other stream? But even in the Lynn stream they were not quite so large as in the Lowman; then by this plenty there would reach 4, 5, 6, and 7 oz. I was just as surprised as if you had told me you had seen a gudgeon 1 lb. An explanation would be appreciated by

MARK ANTONY.

[We confess we have never seen a loach of $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. weight or $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. either, for that matter. "M. A." should remember that it is a boy who relates about the catching of these loaches, and boys magnify fish weight even more than grown anglers do.—ED.]

THE WEST CENTRAL ASSOCIATION.

SIR,—A letter addressed by me to Mr. Geen, has been read to the West Central Association, and has apparently given rise to statements in the last "L. B." jottings, which I must ask you to correct. I wish to state that I am not a delegate to that association, consequently have no right whatever to attend its meetings.

I have never asked, or thought of asking, for a special invitation from that association, and have no intention of accepting it now that it has been given, although I fully appreciate their kindly feeling.

My aim and hope, in conjunction with others, has long been to see one good representative angling association which should rise above the level of mediocrity, and be such as all classes of anglers could thoroughly support. Recent movements show the folly of anticipating the establishment of such an institution, or of hoping now for anything better than what we have, except in name, and with one president instead of two.—I am &c.,

May 26, 1884.

T. CRUMPLEN.

EYED-HOOKS AND KNOTTING THE GUT.

SIR,—I have been waiting to see if anyone else would give the true reason for correctly knotting the gut to the eyed hooks; but as Mr. Hall has passed it over in his letter of May 17th, perhaps I may be allowed to say a word on the subject, and as Mr. Hall and I were closely associated in the first working out of these excellent hooks, I think I may do so on fair grounds.

Eyed-hooks are not novelties, though they may be so to most trout anglers, and are undoubtedly so in the small sizes used for river trout fishing.

When we were first studying the question and looking round for someone to undertake to make them, I first of all obtained from Messrs. Kelly and Son, of Dublin, patterns of Irish-made eyed-hooks, but they were all of large sizes, suitable for small salmon flies, or at smallest for sea trout flies, about No. 6 or 7 of the present make; the eyes were all formed straight with the shank, some placed horizontally, and some vertically to the bend of the hook.

We were at that time both in frequent correspondence with Mr. Aldam on angling matters, and, on mentioning our ideas to him, he very kindly offered to get some made for us by a professional hookmaker, and went to very considerable trouble to do so, for which he has our sincere thanks. Who the maker was I do not know, but the hooks did not turn out satisfactorily, and we abandoned their use; and, eventually, I wrote to Messrs. P. Hutchinson and Son, of Kendal, with whom I had previously dealt in such matters, and persuaded them to meet our views, and make us a few gross of various sizes. How well they have done it those who regularly use these hooks know, and I hope that the notoriety they have now acquired will bring the firm their reward in a commercial sense for their trouble and courtesy to us.

But it was only after considerable perseverance and correspondence that the hooks were got to be as correct as they are now made; and as the largest share of this subsequent correspondence was conducted by Mr. Hall, and the alteration in the bend (from the "Sneck Bend," or the flat "Limerick," to the present combination of the "Limerick" bend with "Sneck" side-twist, which Mr. Hall called the "Snecky Limerick") was his idea, the hooks have properly been christened with his name, and he has probably ordered for himself, and friends to whom they were introduced, as many gross as I have used single hooks.

But I am travelling away from the object of my letter in explanation of preliminaries.

When the hooks were designed we had in view a special knot for fastening on the gut, and as the main object of the attachment was to obtain a clean pull on the point of the hook for hooking the fish, and without any side drag or tendency to scratch without entering, we found that to be successful the eye of the hook must be turned upwards in the same proportion as occurs when two pieces of whipcord are looped together and pulled tight.

The pull must be straight on the line of the shank to enable the point to enter properly, and the reason for the shape of the turned up eye and the knot tied underneath the eye (as already twice given in diagram by Mr. Hall) is to obtain this straight pull, which anybody can test for themselves by trying a properly-knotted fly on any soft substance like a piece of indiarubber. Other knots of somewhat simpler kind have been mentioned, but where the gut goes only once through the eye the pull does not come quite in the right place, and there is more chafing between the gut and the steel eye.

The two prime advantages of the knot given by Mr. Hall (which is an old salmon-fly knot) are that (a) it ensures a direct pull on the point of the hook, and (b) the knot acts as a padding between the gut and the steel eye, which prevents the chafing of the soft, wet gut at the head of the fly just where the cracking action of casting is most destructive, and this is the reason why eyed-hook flies stand the "drying action" of casting so long in comparison with hooks tied on gut in the ordinary way. Those who use eyed-hooks know how very much longer a fly will last on one strand of gut, and how easily a favourite fly can be retied upon a dozen strands seriatim, and kill fish as well as ever after a whole season's fishing—or longer, to my knowledge.

Anglers may use their wits to design all sorts of knots to save themselves trouble at the waterside; but they will never beat the knot which the eyed-hook was designed to suit, and which is the best. The complaint against this knot is that it is troublesome to enter the gut twice through the eye in small hooks. I admit that this is the one objection to the system, but it can be got over by a little practice, and by remembering to cut the end of the gut with a knife or scissors in a slanting direction so as to obtain a point to it, for the same reason that a lady points a thread for threading her needle. A gut end bitten off forms a flat brush end, which is difficult to put through a small eye once, to say nothing of the second time; but if the gut is laid on the thumb-nail and cut through at as great a slant as possible with a sharp knife, it gives a good point to thread the eyed-hook a second time, and which I find a great assistance.

Major Turle's knot, given a short time ago, is a puzzle to me, though it might be easy if seen in practice; but I maintain that if anglers wish to use the best knot, and to have their flies stand "drying" longest, they should stick to the knot as already published in Mr. Hall's diagram. The knot given by Mr. James in your paper of May 17th is a good knot in itself, and when used on a salmon fly headed with a soft gut loop it "jams up" tight and becomes secure; but he will find it unsafe with a rigid eye of steel, and it does not obviate the other objection of chafing the single gut where it passes through the eye. This is the objection to any knot which passes only once through the eye. The doubly-entered gut and knot underneath the eye are safer and last longer than any other.—I am, &c.,

GEORGE BANKART.

Leicester.

[It is curious how often practice and theory vary, or appear to do so, for since using Major Turle's very simple method of fastening the gut to the hook we have missed, or fancied we missed, a smaller proportion of rises than with the "double entry" knot. Major Turle never uses anything else himself, and yet he probably has killed more heavy trout than anyone else who ever used the eyed-hooks. A 2-pounder is to him a "little beggar," fish from 3 lb. to 8 lb. being more in his line, as we can testify from experience when fishing with him. But Mr. Bankart's arguments in favour of the double entry of the gut are very sound, and as our readers have descriptions of both plans they can please themselves.—ED.]

THE HERTFORD FISHERY.

SIR,—I should not think of troubling you again on this matter were it not that the "lessee" distinctly challenges me for "proof" of any one fishing in the said waters without a ticket. From the nature of the case I could not offer "proof" unless I knew the names of all the parties whom I saw fishing, and also were acquainted with the list of ticket-holders. The only kind of proof I have to offer is the testimony of one or two of the worm-fishers themselves who distinctly told me that they took no tickets. If they did take tickets

they told falsehoods without any adequate motive. Although "the subscription is only 5s. a year," some of the worm-fishers I saw evidently could not afford even that, poor fellows!

One in particular could not even afford to buy a rod, for he was fishing openly in broad day on the opposite bank to myself with a hazel stick in one of the choicest bits of water, and was quite a ragged fellow.

As to some of these working men "indulging in a little chaff with 'Noblesse Oblige,'" I beg to say that I experienced no chaff at all from any one of them. So that there must have been another fly-fisher, who was equally surprised with myself at the many worm-fishers. Then as to my being "unlucky, as others had some very good takes," I can only say that three or four good fly-fishers told me they "had done nothing."

Nor much wonder, when not only worm-fishers abound, but when boys are allowed to bathe (as I saw myself) and to throw stones, &c., into the stream which professes to be guarded as subscription waters.—I am, &c.,

NOBLESSE OBLIGE.

THE FISHING AT HERTFORD.

SIR,—A trout was caught at Hertford on the 23rd inst., by a miller's man, at the town mill, minnow spinning, which weighed $6\frac{1}{2}$ lb.; length, 24 inches; girth, 15 inches; mouth, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches; not, I should say, in first-rate condition; probably never worked for her living—it was a female fish.

The controversy in your columns as to the Lea Fishing and the subscription demanded, seems to arise from the want of distinct notice boards, stating where Lord Salisbury's right begins and ends, and where the Corporation right, as guardians of the free land and fishery, begins and ends.—I am, &c.,

GREY DRAKE.

FISHING IN THE ISLE OF MAN.

SIR,—In reply to Mr. F. Laycock's inquiries regarding trout fishing (there are only trout in the streams) here, I beg to state that the law brought into force last year has not been repealed. No one can fish without a license, which are procurable at the police-office, Douglas. The proprietors and farmers along nearly every stream still persist in not allowing anyone to fish; yet, for all that, a good many licenses have been taken out.—I am, &c.,

M. REYNOLDS.

Doug's, Isle of Man.

FISHING IN THE ISLE OF MAN.

SIR,—By the courtesy of a friend I am enabled to answer Mr. Laycock's inquiry in your GAZETTE of Saturday last. It will be advisable for any one intending to fish, to take out a license; for although some persons object to both the new law and the license, there are others who observe both, and by the exercise of a little tact, it will be easy to find which way the wind blows, and find the bias of any inquirer before stating whether a license has been taken or not.

Tickets are to be got at the Railway Inn, Douglas.

The best places to fish are:—Sulby Glen, Sanfon River, and Glen Helen, (the latter is charged 1s. per day), but all the watercourses of the island abound with trout, though small. Good sport can be had in the Nunnery Grounds, Douglas.

The best baits are, Wasp baits, maggots, and red worms. Fly fishing is difficult, in consequence of the nature of the ground.—I am, &c.,

W. R. R.

FISHING IN THE ISLE OF MAN.

SIR,—Your correspondent of May 24 (Mr. Laycock) should get "Shaw's Guide to the Island," wherein he will find trout fishing in the island fully detailed. Last season I was over there, and took my tackle in anticipation of many a trouting tour; was directed to the police station in Douglas for a trout license, for which I had to pay 1s. 6d. Afterwards I discovered that this "license business" has given great offence to riparian landowners and tenants, who have formed Associations to prosecute trespassers, and have bound themselves to forfeit £5, should they grant leave to anyone to fish on their respective lengths of river. In fact I read at the time an account of a trespasser being prosecuted and penalties inflicted. Should the Act be repealed, leave to fish would be given freely as heretofore.—I am, &c.,

Stalybridge.

J. SUTTOLIFFE.

P.S.—I ought to say that the offender had been long watched for, being the agent, or cat's-paw, of the man who had caused the Trout License Act being applied to the island. A visitor would simply be warned off. I fished with success the Sulby river for hours without leave, and without molestation.

"WITHIN MEASURABLE DISTANCE."

SIR,—In a recent interesting article you attribute this "memorable" expression to Lord Beaconsfield. Forgive my tardy correction in stating that the words were used by Mr. Gladstone in an Irish debate.—I am, &c.,

N. T.

[We are obliged to our correspondent, but not convinced that we were wrong, having a firm impression that the words were used by Lord Beaconsfield either in an Irish debate or in his famous letter to the Duke of Marlborough, then Lord Lieutenant of Ireland.—ED.]

THE SPAWNING OF MINNOWS.

SIR,—Would you kindly answer the following queries in your next issue of the GAZETTE?

What time of the year do minnows spawn? Have they any particular distinction at the time of spawning?—I am, &c.,

R. H. NELSON.

12, Cavendish Street, Ulverston.

[Minnows spawn in May and June, selecting the shallowest streams they can find for the purpose. The spawn is deposited on the stones and gravel. The "plumage" of the males (if we may use the expression) during the spawning season is extremely beautiful, every colour of the rainbow being reflected on their iridescent sides.—ED.]

THE SHRIMP AS A SALMON BAIT.

SIR,—As a constant reader for the last few months of your excellent paper, I have perused with some interest your papers and notes on the use of the shrimp as a bait for salmon. Unfortunately, I fish a river where the salmon are notoriously slow takers, and as worm is prohibited and shrimps are not, I should much like to try them as a means of taking fish this coming season (for here the fish do not run until July); and with this in view, I should be

obliged if your talented correspondent would kindly say whether the shrimp is used boiled or unboiled, and whether best adapted for a full or small water, and whether it should be fished like a minnow, a worm, or as a fly. The mode of baiting is pretty well shown in your paper of the 10th May. Any other details your correspondent can give for which you can find space would greatly oblige—

LEX.

[Mr. Geo. M. Kelson has promised to describe "shrimping" in an early number of the GAZETTE.—ED.]

BRIGHT GOLDEN HACKLE FEATHERS WANTED.

SIR,—Can you, or any of your readers, tell me where to obtain hackle feathers of a bright golden colour, as nearly as possible of the colour and lustre of the golden pheasant's topping, from half-an-inch to one and-a-half inches in length? Cock's hackles, whether buff or light red, are too dull on the underside of the fibre. Probably white cock's hackles, dyed in Judson's canary dye, might answer; but I am in hopes that some of your salmon fly dressing readers may be able to tell me of a suitable hackle feather of natural growth and golden lustre, and where a supply can be obtained.—I am, &c.,

G. B.

SALMON IN THE UPPER YORE.

SIR,—I have noticed a discussion carried on in your correspondence columns upon the advantages and disadvantages of giving salmon free access to the upper reaches of the Yore.

I quite agree with Mr. Ford in his most sensible and practical letter in your issue of the 17th inst., from which anybody boasting a slight knowledge of trout, their haunts and habits, can see that he commands a thorough and practical acquaintance with the subject upon which he writes. What he says about trout, their size, food, &c., I can verify from experience. He mentions a small stream below Buttertubs, which literally swarms with small trout, whose numbers would long ago have been considerably modified had it not been for the inability of the cowl net fraternity to hold them within their fatal meshes. As an instance of what Mr. Ford says about the food and size of trout, I know a brooklet, not a mile from the above-mentioned one, in which I have caught well-fed fish weighing a pound close to the foot of Shunnerfell—in fact, as far up as a trout could possibly find water enough to live in, and at an elevation of about 1,600 feet; but trout of this weight, or even much smaller, are very scarce. These trout, and, in fact, the trout of every stream, large or small, vary in size, shape, and colour, so much so that I have picked different trout out of a k reel and told the angler which beck he caught them in.

I believe there is a stronger reason for not introducing salmon into the upper waters of Wensleydale than Mr. Ford has mentioned or Mr. Corry has taken into consideration. It is this: there are numbers of men who use their famous Wensleydale cheese, with the most deadly effect at a cost to them of from 5s. to 10s. per pound, who would not be slow to turn the salmon to account in spite of all vigilance by milking them and making their own cheese, which is, as I have been told, a comparatively easy task.

There are men in the neighbourhood of Hawes who by means of this aquatic cheese, a rod and their consummate audacity, manage to eke out a living, and—worse than all—enjoy the reputation of being the best anglers in the neighbourhood.

Then let some of the speculative advocates of this scheme remember that good counsel like Mr. Ford's rejected often returns to enrich the giver's bosom with wider experience.—I am, &c.,

R. KEATON.

London, May, 1884.

[“Wensleydale cheese” is the name given by local poaching anglers to salmon roe, which is still freely used in Yorkshire.—ED.]

THE COMMON HOUSE-FLY AS BAIT.

SIR,—Reading the report in last week's GAZETTE of the prosecution at Ledbury for fishing in the Hereford and Gloucester Canal, during the close season, has reminded me that in Gloucestershire the common house fly is almost the only bait used for fly-fishing, and that years ago I enjoyed many days' splendid sport with no other bait.

Before starting out in the morning I provided myself with a perforated tin box, full of flies, killed by a switch, similar to those used in almost every butcher's shop. This method of killing is least likely to bruise the fly, which I invariably found a most killing bait. It would be interesting to learn why the common house-fly is not used as bait in this part of the country, for surely other things being equal, it would be better to kill them outright and use them in this way, than to torture them on the "catch 'em alive, oh" papers.

I should also like to express the pleasure which the reading of your article on eels afforded me, and to say that I for one shall look forward with much interest to the redemption of your promise to print some further particulars of "worms," their habits, &c.—I am, &c.,

ALBERT B. DEANE.

1, Hatfield Terrace, Mortlake, Surrey.

[The common house-fly is a very good bait for trout, chub, roach, rudd, and dace. It is a very difficult fly to imitate with feathers. Indeed, we have never seen an artificial copy worth a straw. If Mr. McNee would catch a few house flies and then copy them by using his pike scale wings flat on the body, as in the natural, and making the body of cork with black marks to represent the markings of the fly's body, with a fine fibre or two of peacock for legs—he would get pretty near it, we think. If he will send us a few scales, we will try and make him a sample to show the kind of thing we mean. Both wings should be made out of one pike scale and without dividing it quite.—ED.]

GRAYLING TAKING MINNOWS.

SIR,—I have taken a grayling with the minnow when trolling for trout, and have been told of two similar instances.

I think it very probable that the grayling having taken possession of a suitable place for spawning, they drive all intruders away if they can, and seeing the minnow spinning across, they make a rush at it, and accidentally get caught by the triangles.

I have heard the same opinion expressed by others.—I am, &c.,

13, Raven Street, Ludlow, May 20th.

T. B. HODGES.

[The opinion given by Mr. Hodges is one held by many anglers. It was only the other day we read the same explanation in a new German work on fishing. But the grayling does not spawn all the year round. The fact is, the grayling fully deserves its title of "lady of the stream," not only on account of its elegance and delicacy, but also because of its inquisitive and coquettish nature—"uncertain, coy, and hard to please"; it often refuses your most delicate dunn, and perversely accepts the fate intended for the "gentleman of the stream"—the trout.—ED.]

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Column are 6d. per line for one, or 4d. per line for more than one insertion.
Address Manager, FISHING GAZETTE, 12 and 13, Fetter Lane, London, and send
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Must be in good condition—Address Editor, FISHING GAZETTE, 12 and 13, Fetter Lane,
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mersmith, W.Superior Trout Flies, 8d. per dozen. See Editor's Notice, March 22nd, 1884. Special
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RIVER REPORTS.

TIME OF HIGH WATER IN THE THAMES.

To find the time of high water in the Thames at any of the following places,
to the time of high water at London Bridge (given below).

	30 minutes for Chelsea.
40 "	Putney.
45 "	Hammersmith.
50 "	Barnes.
55 "	Kew.
75 "	Richmond.
80 "	Twickenham.
85 "	Teddington.

Example:—If it is high water at 2 o'clock at London Bridge, it will be high
water at Teddington about 3.25, or eighty-five minutes later; but it must be
remembered that a strong wind accelerates or retards the tide very much.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.

			Morning.	Afternoon.
For Saturday,	May 31	..	6.35	7.2
WHIT SUNDAY	June 1	..	7.30	8.1
WHITSUN MONDAY	" 2	..	8.31	9.3
WHITSUN TUESDAY	" 3	..	9.39	10.12
Wednesday,	" 4	..	10.46	11.17
Thursday,	" 5	..	11.43	12.0
Friday,	" 6	..	12.11	12.34

THE LOWER THAMES.

John Johnson, sen., in writing from Kingston, says:—"I have had two
little turns with the trout this week. Mr. Sachs got broke with a nice fish of
about 7 lb. I saw him jump twice. The fish begin to feed deeper and slower.
A few barbel begin to jump, and there is any amount of gudgeon on the
gravel. A gentleman fishing with Thomas Milbourne near the Hampton
Water Works, took a nice trout of 4 lb. Mr. Morgan, fishing with John
Smith at Hampton Court Weir, caught two trout, one of 7 lb. and another of
3 lb. Mr. Burningham, fishing with William Milbourne at the Sunbury Weir,
got a fine trout of 9 lb. in beautiful condition. Mr. Edward Lukyn, at Sun-
bury, has taken two trout, one of 4 lb. and the other 4½ lb. At Halliford,
George Rosewell has caught one trout of 7½ lb., and Mr. Eagle, at the Bell
Weir, one of 5½ lb. If we could get a change in the wind and some warm
rain, there would be more fish caught: as the fishermen say, "There seem more
trout than ever."

UPPER THAMES.

The river is extraordinarily bright, and trout, consequently, have become
very shy; but three or four nice fish have been taken, notably one at Maiden-
head, by a gentleman with Wilder, going 10 lb., and a grand specimen I hear
it was. Two trout of 4 lb. each have also been had at Marlow, respectively
by Mr. Anthony and Mr. Bastick.

Thursday evening.—The wind keeps in the north-east persistently, and is
having a bad effect on the condition of the water; but still I opine trout will
feed, and I can assure anglers the Thames has never been so full of the beauties.
The chilly atmosphere is keeping pleasure boats off for a while, so there is
every chance still for the tailers and spinners.—MARLOW BUZZ.

Ancholme District.

The weather remains in a peculiarly unfavourable state for trout fishing, and
the catches reported during the week have only been light. The waters are
still exceedingly low, and the grass in sundry places is becoming quite parched.

Mr. C. V. Peace, of Broughton Vale, and Mr. F. Barker had 5½ brace of nice fish from a local beck on Friday last. They used the March brown, red spinner, and freckled dun, taking fish with all of them. The latter fly is not much used here, but it is a great favourite on the Yore and Swale, where it is sometimes dubbed "Moorcock and Spicey." Messrs. Haddelsey, Manwell, and L. Ford had fair sport at Riverhead the end of last week. One fish caught weighed 2½ lb. The prospective enlargement of paper gives great satisfaction hereabouts.—THOMAS FORD, Caistor.

Bure (Norwich)

The reports that have reached us from various parts of this stream are very favourable, one especially from Acle, where a friend of mine last Friday had excellent sport amongst the roach and bream, bringing home some really good ones to prove that this catch did not, as I'm afraid sometimes is the case, only exist in the fertile brain of the would-be angler. I trust that a change of wind may occur before the holidays, and then I anticipate good sport, otherwise it will continue very ordinary. With this dry weather the bream should be had high up the stream and mostly in shallow waters. Prospects fair.—R. BERT MOLL.

Dee and Don (Aberdeenshire).

The weather is still bright and hard. Scorching frosty heats and easterly winds are prevalent. The river is very low and clear, and few fish are running. In the river nets from Dee Mouth upward only some 300 fish were got last week. These consisted of 150 salmon, 50 grilse, and 100 trout. The trout, it may be remarked, were large and well-conditioned. Some of the stations at the Don were blank. As can be imagined, angling has likewise been prosecuted at considerable disadvantage, and anglers and fishermen are alike out of humour. Sea hazes are visiting us rather frequently just now, and these, in our opinion, are not auguries of a speedy change for the better. In the open time, between Saturday evening and Monday morning, scarcely any fish ascended the Dee. In the Park and Durris District sport is at a standstill. The same may almost be said of Banchory. Kincardine O'Neil is not quite so backward. Aboyne is doing fairly well. Ballater district is still affording a good deal of sport. Braemar just now is topping all. The records from Braemar this year have been splendid, those obtained on the Invercauld Private Water, rented by Mr. J. C. Wordie, many declare have never been surpassed. It is gratifying to know that the greater proportion of the fish that fell to the gentlemen of Mr. Wordie's party were captured with the fly. With the present small water and clear atmosphere during the forenoon the flies used ought to be bright. Small silver doctors, dusty millers, black Toms, Saturdays, and sun flies should be tried. In the afternoon the bumble bee, blue fly, Popham, claret Jock, Jock Scott, and Pitfour ought to be experimented. For evening fishing, that is, after sunset, we recommend the Gordon, yellow, gaudy, and heron-hackled peacock. The time of the Gordon for evening fishing is almost past now, but the peacock and gaudy—the former especially—are good substitutes during the summer months. If the angler is provided with a couple of double-ironed specimens of each of the following, his collection includes all the best grilse and sea-trout flies that are used on the Dee from the middle of May to the middle of September, viz., Jock Scott, Pitfour, Childers, silver doctor, dusty miller, Dunkeld, Logie, Saturday, black Tom, blue fly, sun fly, peacock, yellow wasp, bumble, and red bumble. On the Don, in the neighbourhood of A'ford, some good baskets of yellow trout were got with the fly during the past week. Mr. Muirhead Aitken, Barrister, and Professor Pettigew, of St. Andrew's, made a few fine baskets on the Parkhill Water lately. Trout are now in splendid condition, but we are sorry to learn that the disease, so prevalent among the salmon, is extending to them also. In the Dee there are said to be more diseased fish just now than has been known at the same time for a great many years back. It not infrequently occurs that fish quite newly run are found a good deal blemished. Where, then, Mr. Editor, and how, is the fungus contracted? River reports appended:—(A. J., 26) Woodend.—W. F. Watson, Esq., Monday, 1 fish, 8 lb.; Tuesday, 1 fish, 8½ lb. Inverly.—Wednesday, Wright, keeper, 1 grilse, 3 lb., and 1 sea trout. Inchmarlo.—Craven, keeper, 1 salmon, 8½ lb., on Tuesday. On the Cairntown Water, Mr. David Rae landed 3 fish during the week. Invercauld Private Water.—J. C. Wordie, Esq., Clunie Lodge, and party, 26 salmon for the week. Riverstone.—A. Muirhead Aitken, Esq., a few nice trout. Wakersdam.—J. B. Keith, Esq., some nice trout. Invercauld Arms Hotel Water, Braemar.—16th, Rev. C. Steward, 1 fish, 11½ lb. Ballogie Water.—Geo. Blacklaws, Esq., Tuesday, 1 fish, 18½ lb.; Carlogie, Monday, 1 fish, 20 lb. Report of Messrs. Wm. Blacklaws and Son, rod and fishing tackle makers, Kincardine O'Neil:—Carlogie, J. Harper, Thursday, 1 fish, 11 lb. Borrow's one.—J. Shirret, keeper, Monday, 1 fish, 9 lb. Desswood.—J. Harper, 1 fish, 12½ lb. Norton Water.—C. Nicoll, keeper, Monday, 1 fish, 12 lb.; Wednesday, 1 fish, 12 lb.; Friday, 1 grilse, 3½ lb.—the first of the season in this district. Report of Mr. Geo. Smith, saddler and tackle maker, Ballater:—Invercauld Hotel Water.—Lord Barclay, Tuesday, 1 fish, 8½ lb. Col. Vivian, Tuesday, 4 fish, 6, 8, 10, and 10 lb. W. Copland, Esq., Tuesday, 1 fish, 12 lb.; Friday, 3 fish, 9, 10, and 12 lb.; Saturday, 7 fish, 8, 8, 9, 10, 10, and 11½ lb.; Monday, 26th, 5 fish, 8, 8, 10, 10, and 12 lb. Captain Smith, Tuesday 1 fish, 9 lb.; Friday, 2 fish, 7½ and 10 lb.; Saturday, 2 fish, 7½ and 9 lb. Monday, 26th, 2 fish, 7½ and 8 lb. Monaltrie.—F. Pickop, Esq., Monday, 26th, 6 fish, 9½, 10½, 10½, 11, 12, and 13 lb., on the Cambus O'May section. Morven Water.—J. McHardy, Wednesday, 1 fish, 9 lb. Glebe Water.—Rev. A. A. Campbell, Crathie, 1 fish, 5 lb., on Wednesday. Monaltrie Water.—Colonel Keen, 1 fish, 13½ lb., on Friday. Plenty of grilse have been seen hereabouts.—G. S. The Aberdeen Journal of the 28th records the following:—During the past week, ending Saturday last, the fishing about Aboyne and Glentanar was considered very good, more especially on the Glentanar Water, where Mr. Brooks' party enjoyed very good sport. On the Aboyne Castle Water, on Monday, Mr. Nicolls landed 1 salmon, 7 lb.; on Tuesday, 1, 9 lb.; on Wednesday, 2, 10 and 16 lb.; on Thursday, 1, 10 lb. On the Huntly Lodge Water, on Monday, Mr. Peter Bowie, keeper, landed 1 salmon, 9 lb.: on Tuesday, 1 salmon, 16 lb., was landed; on Wednesday, Colonel Keen, 1 grilse, 4 lb.; on Thursday, 1 salmon, 8 lb. On the Hotel Water, on Monday, Lord Paget landed 1 salmon, 6 lb.; Colonel Vivian, 2 salmon, 9 and 10 lb.; on Tuesday, Lord Paget, 1 salmon, 11 lb.: Colonel Vivian, 1 salmon, 9 lb. On the Glentanar Water, on Monday, 13 salmon, from 6 to 16 lb., were landed; on Tuesday, 12 salmon, from 7 to 12 lb.; on Wednesday, 18 salmon, from 5 to 23 lb.; on Thursday, 8 salmon, from 6 to 12 lb.; on Friday, 6 salmon, from 8 to 11 lb.; on Saturday, 4 salmon, from 7 to 14 lb.—W. M.

Dove.

The river is still running very low and as fine as gin. We want rain badly, not only the river itself but vegetation generally. The grass looks awfully thin, and the farmers are complaining sadly. Twenty-four hours drenching wet would be an incalculable benefit. Sport has been of a moderate character since

my last. I hear of one really noble dish of ten brace of trout taken below Mayfield with the alder fly, but the general average has been about five brace. The May-fly is just coming on nicely, and with suitable weather should be pretty fully on the water by the end of next week. We have had a good many rodsters out the last few days, and we expect a large increase during Whitsun week, which is a very favourable fishing time on our river. I hope the elements may be fine, but I have a sort of idea that after the long drought the rain is reserving itself for a "high old time" during the holidays. That it may come before is the devoted wish of—THE SPLODGER.

Eden (Armthwaite).

The last week has been favourable for trout fishing, and good baskets have been made. Mr. Hannah got fourteen on Monday. Same day, at Carley, Mr. Stubbs took twenty-five with the worm. Mr. Cowan and George Ferguson have both been successful.—SKIDDAW.

Eden (Carlisle).

Salmon fishing is about over till the autumn. The only effective lures for trout are creeper and stone fly. Mr. W. G. Stubbs, alias "the Champion," has been killing some fine baskets, but he is one of those active-minded and able-bodied men who can get up early in the morning and have first turn at the water. The river is in grand condition for night-fishing, but the nights are far too cold for bustard-fishing. Some of the professionals have been slaving away all night for half a dozen to a dozen trout. But if they are not very successful they are doing good by being on the water. Anglers at night are as good as watchers, for poachers won't go where they are.—SILVER GREY.

Exe (Exeter).

The water is lower than ever, and salmon fishing with rods at a standstill. Some nice trout have been taken near Thorverton and Bamford Speke—one gentleman, I saw, had four fine ones, averaging a full pound each. Flies now most killing are red Palmer, black gnat, and brown moth. Rain badly wanted, the river being lower now than for many months past.—J. A. KELLEY.

Ilfracombe.

Sea fishing from the boats with ground lines very slack. The trawlers have had some nice catches of soles, brill, and plaice. Several crabs have been taken from holes in the rocks at low water, and some fine lobsters and crabs brought in from the pots. The fishing with rod and hand lines from the rocks and jetty very slack this week. Weather unsettled. Wind blowing strong from E.N.E.—E. COMER.

Lea (Waltham Abbey).

There have been two very nice fish taken this week, one by Fred Aldridge and one by a gentleman, 3½ lb., Aldridge 3½ lb. Some very nice eels the last few days. The weather too cold, and not anything done now, and there are some good fish feeding.—PERCH.

Leicester.

Trout fishing in this neighbourhood has been very quiet, and with the exception of at Thornton Reservoir, nothing worthy of mention has been caught. At these waters some capital fish have been landed by the subscribers. One gentleman from Leicester showed a fine specimen, 5½ lb., together with several other fair sized fish. Rain is greatly needed; a good downpour would considerably increase the prospects of sport.—ALERT.

Lugg and Arrow.

Both these streams are still in very good fly-fishing order, but clear and getting very low, and a few hours of good rain would be very acceptable at present. The fish in both streams are sporting well at the fly, and some very good fish have been taken. The May-fly and black gnat are the most sure killers at present. On the 23rd some capital sport was had in the Lugg, with the fly, a gentleman took a very nice lot of trout, about 4 lb. the lot. In the Arrow the fish sported well at the May-fly, and some very fine trout were landed. A gentleman tried the Arrow on Saturday last with the black gnat, and landed a splendid basket of trout. The Lugg was tried the same day, with the fly, and a few very nice trout were taken. Fishing in the Lugg on Monday was very good, one gentleman landed a very nice dish of trout, and another took a few very good fish. On Tuesday a gentleman tried the Arrow, with the fly, and landed some very good trout. In the Lugg, the same day, some very fair-sized fish were taken with the May-fly. A few very nice fish have been landed in the Ivington district, with the fly. In the Eardisland water some very good trout have been taken. A nice lot of trout were taken in the Shobden part. The Pinsley is in good fishing order, but low; they are rising in it well at the May-fly. Some few very nice trout were taken at the end of last week.—GWYNNE.

Pickering (North-East Yorkshire).

Heavens like brass, ground like cast iron, streams dead low, trout sulky, May flies abundant, has been the state of affairs piscatorial in this part of the world for about three weeks past. Baskets have been either empty or only scantily filled, according to the luck or perseverance of the owners. Such a thing as a good take has not been heard of for a long time; indeed, reports were rife that the mine water from the upper part of Rosedale had killed all the fish in the river Seven. Some damage may have been done high up the dale, but I am certain that it is not the case lower down, the prevalence of north and east winds having been the sole cause of fish appearing scarce for a long time this spring. A singular case was noticed last week. Two gentlemen fishing the Dove took several trout with Mayfly, of which there is a fair rise on that river. The best trout had a grayling of about 6 inches long in his throat; the head was partly digested, and the tail sticking out of the trout's mouth. Those honourable anglers who have acted according to law, and returned to the water in the free part of Pickering Beck a large number of grayling since the close time, 15th March, will no doubt be pleased to hear that they have been click hooked in large numbers during the recent bright weather by certain gentlemen sportsmen (save the mark!) pothunters, who appear to be a long time cutting their wisdom teeth. Wind dead north, with every appearance of dry weather.—NORTH EAST.

Severn (Shrewsbury).

Mr. Harwood, who is a practical fisherman and tackle-maker, has been at his work again; and this (Thursday) morning I saw a splendid lot of fish taken by him, with the fly, yesterday, consisting of trout and rough fish, the whole weighing 15 lb. They were taken at various places along the Severn, from Montford Bridge down to Shrewsbury, and from the coracle. Had he had his landing net, the catch would have been more; e.g., his hooking a large trout, estimated at over 4 lb., and which got away. They were mostly taken with an artificial May-fly of his own make. The river is exceedingly low and clear, and

I was surprised at such a fine lot of fish having been basketed. I saw Mr. Perkins out spinning, and he had three runs; but the fish got away. I hope to send you a much better report after the holiday on Monday, as a great many anglers intend to do great things on that day. I can only hope we shall have a drop of rain first, or they will probably be disappointed. The wind is now in the north-east, and it is much colder than it has been. Sergeant Evans also met with a big trout, whilst trolling, but he also broke away. I have been told, too, that there is a large one above the Welsh Bridge, and that the rod and line wielders have been trying their hands on him, some in coracles, and others in pants; but, although several times hooked, he has managed to get away up to this.—SEVERN GRAYLING.

Taw (N. Devon).

Water still very low. Impossible to fish in the day, and very little being done by night. Had I a desire to trap the sportsmen, I could tell of fish taken by the net and palmed off as rod. A gent told me that at the estuary no bass have been taken worth speaking of. "He fishes there two or three times a week," and, if any, it is fish 20 or 30 to the pound up the rivers. Otter hunting has been good this week, on Wednesday two being killed, and one lost. Wind east, and water never lower nor clearer.—RUSTY GAME.

Teme (Ludlow).

This river and all its tributaries are getting low for want of a good day of two's rain. A small sprinkling fell on Sunday, just sufficient to lay the dust for a few hours, and then it ceased. A gentleman from Leintwardine informed me yesterday that the Teme is so low in the club waters, that it is perfectly useless trying to fish; several members who annually visit the waters, have postponed their excursion to Leintwardine for the present owing to the above cause. Up Oakley Park Quarter some very fine trout have been landed with the blue dun; some good fish have been caught in the Castle pound, that portion of the Teme nearest to Colling's Mill. We saw several nice trout on Tuesday evening which a fisherman landed opposite the Whitcliffe Walks with the grannam. We saw a nice pike on Wednesday, which would weigh from four to five lb.; the gentleman informed me he caught it below Ashford weir. Fishermen have avoided the hot weather, and most of the fishing has been done towards the going down of the sun. In the Onisbury waters a gentleman, on Monday evening, caught five nice trout, weighing nearly five lb., in a meadow near the Shrewsbury railway (after 7 o'clock). Another gentleman landed four fish in the same meadow on Tuesday evening with the grannam. The Clun, like all streams, is suffering from the drought, visitors to that river have not fared well, having to leave for train as the fish begin to bite of an evening. A late train, called the ten o'clock train, will commence running nightly on Monday, when fishermen will have a chance of remaining at the river side until nearly dusk. Some very good fish have been taken up the Corve, with the cowdung fly. All the streams hereabouts are remarkably well stocked with all kinds of fish. We heard of a gent visiting the Letwyche waters on Saturday, and had capital sport; he managed to land eleven trout.—S. LUDLOW.

Teme (Tenbury).

This stream is still in good fishing condition, but rather lower than it was last week. On the 25th there were a few sharp showers of rain fell in the district; but it made very little difference to the state of the water, which still remains clear. The fish are now biting well at the Cadow or May fly and Yellow Sally. At present there are but few Cadows on the water, and by the end of the week we may expect to see them on the water very thick. On Friday a gent visited the water near Little Hereford with the fly and landed some very fine trout averaging from $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. each. In the water near the town a gent landed with the Cadow a very nice lot of trout. On Monday some very nice trout were taken near the bridge with the fly. Fishing above the bridge on Tuesday, a gent landed some very fine fish with the fly. In the water below the town a gent took a very nice lot of fish with the Yellow Sally. There has been a few nice fish taken in the Association waters with the fly this week. The Kyre and Rea are both in good fishing order, being clear, but low; the fish are sporting well in them at the fly. A few nice fish were taken in the Kyre this week, and a few in the Rea with the May fly. The Ledwyche is in nice fishing order, but very low. There have been a few nice fish taken this week with the fly, but the fish are rising best in this river at the Cadow.—WORCESTER.

Teme (Worcester).

The local anglers are doing well in the rivers and brooks. Trout are plentiful and on the feed. If it was to take up fishing weather instead of east winds, sport should be such as is seldom to be had, for the Lower Teme fishery is full of fish of every description that are natives of the Severn and her tributaries. Many score of chub have come to grief since I last wrote. I will give a few takes that have come under my notice. One brace of trout 4 lb. 15 oz. caught by Mr. Prosser, with the worm; on an eyed hook; the best fish weighed $3\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Mr. Wm. Pugh, a few good takes of chub; Mr. Brooks, a dozen or more. Myself on Saturday, after 6 p.m., landed 13 lb. of dace and chub with the fly, also a brace of trout on Monday from 7 p.m. until 8.30, I landed nine fish averaging 1 lb. each; Mr. White caught in three outings over 30 lb. of chub with the vampire.—J. A. GRIFFIN.

Torrige (Torrington).

River low. Rain would improve the fishing. A stranger from London took a capital lot of trout on Tuesday, and took them back to the Great City. The local fishermen have had fine sport with mullet and bass in the tidal water, some of the fish over 2 lb. each. E. Francforth, Esq., took over one hundred.—PRACTICAL ANGLER.

Tweed and Teviot.

For a fortnight past the angling in the districts of Tweed and Teviot has been attended with but indifferent results. Although a rise of $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet occurred in the rivers on Saturday, the 17th inst., the streams have not since been in good order either for salmon or trout fishing. The spring salmon angling is now virtually at an end, and taking the season as a whole, the sport has only been moderately good. On some casts, however, fair takes were obtained, especially during March and April. Since the end of the latter month, however, few takes have been recorded on any of the casts throughout the course of the Tweed. During the last few days, the rivers have run in smaller and been too little for successful trout angling, and the weather having been very fine, few good baskets have been got, although now and again a fair dish is killed. On Wednesday night Mr. D. Brown killed three trout, which weighed 3 lb. (one 1 lb. 13 oz.) Salmon angling has, of course, been almost nil, the only fish caught that we have heard of being one at Sprouston, and two on the Makerston water. Unless we have some good floods during the

next few months, salmon angling proper may be said to be over for at least from 8 to 10 weeks.—MAXWHEEL, Kelso.

Trent (Nottingham).

The river here continues very low and clear, and the salmon takes of the week have been the poorest since the season opened. The fact is the fish require a "fresh," and, although there are plenty they will scarcely look at a bait. At Shardlow and Weston the subscribers have daily mustered in force, but so far as I have been able to make out, only a couple of fish were taken; the heavier being taken in the "Long Swim," in what is known as the Shardlow length. Report has it that Mr. Lowater caught a twelve pounder in the Colwick reach on Monday. Here, as at Shardlow and Weston, numbers may frequently be seen disporting themselves, and the least rise is certain to have a beneficial effect. Several gentlemen from a distance have been patronising Shardlow, but I am afraid that so far as the present week is concerned they will be much disappointed. On Wednesday the weather was dull and threatening, and probably rain may turn up.—THE MAN AT THE CLUBS.

Wharfe (Yorkshire).

The river still remains very low and clear, and the sport very meagre. A few fish have been caught late in the evening, with fly, on the shallows; but the night air has so far been chilly, and, consequently, not favourable for this description of angling. Something has at last been done in respect to the river pollutions at Otley. I trust that in future they may be somewhat abated, as they certainly must do a great deal of harm to the young fish that the Otley Club annually turn into the Wharfe.—FRANCIS M. WALBRAN.

Wye and Derwent.

Both the Wye and Derwent, are now very low indeed, and the greatest care should now be taken to protect the fish being taken by poachers. I am sorry to say, at different places all down the Derwent, from Dowsley to below Matlock Bridge, a great quantity of both trout and grayling can be seen lying dead in the bottom of the river. How have these fish been killed? It's a great mystery to many fishermen, likewise to myself. Both trout and grayling have been rising very nicely on both the Wye and Derwent during the whole of the past week, and baskets up to eight brace per angler have been made. The killing flies for both rivers have been the yellow dun, dotterel, golden dun, red palmer and sand flies. The dibbing fraternity with the natural flies have done well on the lower lengths of the Derwent, and trout up to 2 lb. each have been landed, with both the down looker, and blue bottle flies. The trollers have killed a few trout the last thing at night, chiefly with the Derby trout killer. D. P. Pearson, Esq. of Nottingham has sent me an old Derby trout killer to be remounted &c., and he informs me that he has killed over 100 brace of good trout with it. I can with the greatest confidence recommend the "Derby Trout Killer," as the best artificial bait ever thrown into any river, where trout, perch, and salmon, abound. It kills well in either stills or streams, rivers or ponds: the bottom fishers on the lower lengths of the Derwent, have taken some good trout the last thing at night with both ant eggs and maggots for bait. To-night, Thursday, the weather seems quite changing, viz., dull and cold, and rain threatening, with barometer falling. If rain should come, enough of it to disturb both rivers, the Whitsuntide holiday piscators ought to have a good time of it next week.—G. J. EATON.

Yare (Norwich).

There is very little to report on this stream except that numbers of eels are being taken babbling or "bobbing," which you like. With regard to coarse fish, no fresh news has reached me. I trust soon to be able to give more encouraging reports, but patience is a virtue every true disciple of Walton must possess. Spawning is now at its height.—ROBERT MOLE.

SCOTCH FISHING NOTES.

THE TAY.—The river is now in excellent ply for angling, and several fair baskets of trout, varying from 4 to 6 lb., have been made on the Findyane water. Mr. Walker's keeper caught a fine p'ump salmon of 18 lb. He fished this water again on Monday, and succeeded in landing a fine salmon, weighing 22 lb. On the same day, Mr. Grahame's keeper caught a salmon weighing 18 lb., on the Grandtully Castle water.

THE TUMMEL.—On Monday some portions of the Tummel, a tributary of the Tay, were in fair fishing ply. There was a strong sunshine, and some parts of the water were rather clear. The Bouskeid water, which is in fine ply, was fished by Mr. T. Purdie's keeper, who succeeded in capturing a fine p'ump salmon, weighing 15 lb. On the Faskally water some fine sport is being obtained, and on Monday eight beautiful salmon were captured by two rods. The weather on Wednesday continued dry and hard and very unfavourable for good sport, the water was also pretty clear. Mr. Purdie's keeper fished the Bouskeid water for a time, and caught a salmon weighing 20 lb. It was in excellent condition.

THE EARN.—Very little has been done with the rod on the Dupplin water on the Earn, a tributary of the Tay, with the exception of a few good baskets of trout. There have been two or three fine baskets of trout weighing between 8 lb. and 10 lb., got lately on Dupplin Loch. Mr. Brown fished the May, a tributary of the Earn, and got three dozen and a half of trout.

LOCHS TUMMEL AND RANNOCH (Perthshire).—The weather on Thursday was too hard and dry on Loch Tummel for good fishing; but a pretty strong breeze prevailed from the south, which caused a fine ripple on the water. Mr. F. Bamford, Kindrochet, was out in one of the Loch Tummel Hotel boats, and had very fine sport. He captured four trout, one of them weighing $2\frac{1}{2}$ lb., and the others averaged $1\frac{1}{2}$ lb. The weather on Saturday last had not improved much, being very clear and dry. Mr. Bamford again fished this water, and got two beautiful trout, weighing 2 lb. each. Trout fishing may now be said to have successfully commenced on Loch Rannoch. Mr. J. McMillan, Palgowan, and Mr. D. McMillan, Calvine, were out on Tuesday, last week, from the Macdonald Arms Hotel, for about two hours, and killed 12 lb. of excellent trout. On Monday, Mr. Brodie and Mr. Torrie, Edinburgh, fished Loch Rannoch, from the Bun-Rannoch Hotel, and had 18 lb. of trout. The trout are in good condition, and with fine weather excellent sport should now be got.

LOCHS LAGGAN AND ERICHT (Perthshire).—On Loch Laggan on Wednesday, Mr. Thursby, Glenshoir, killed eleven trout on the Pattack, the heaviest weighing $3\frac{1}{2}$ lb. On Friday, Messrs. Froggart and Place, Nottingham, killed 19 lb. of trout, all in good condition. Mr. Duncanson, Perth, fished Loch Erich on Friday, and killed $8\frac{1}{2}$ lb. of trout, the heaviest one of them weighing $1\frac{1}{2}$ lb. On the same water Mr. Sutherland had 14 lb. of trout.

SENSIBLE FISHING REGULATIONS.—The fishing on the Dochart, a small

Perthshire stream which flows into Loch Tay, is confined to the artificial fly, and nothing else is allowed to be used except trolling, which is permitted in Loch Dochart only. Lord Breadalbane's regulations, which are strictly enforced, are that no trout are to be taken at any time under 7 inches in length, and none under 2 lb. weight before April. There are at present no boats available for visitors.

PROPOSED SALMON LADDER AT THE FALLS OF TUMMEL, IN PERTHSHIRE.—A report has been prepared on the instructions of the Fishery Board by Mr. Archibald Young in reference to the construction of a salmon ladder on the Falls of Tummel. This report states that these falls at present form almost a complete barrier to the ascent of the salmon, and shut out upwards of a hundred miles of rivers and lochs well adapted for angling and spawning purposes. There would, Mr. Young thinks, be no difficulty in constructing, at a moderate cost, a ladder which would enable salmon to ascend the falls with perfect ease. Far higher falls, with a much greater body of water passing over them, have been made accessible to salmon in the United States and Norway, and a fishway on the Macdonald system, which would be perfectly efficient, would, it is estimated, not exceed in cost £250. It is, however, pointed out that the proprietors of the falls—Mr. Buttar, of Faskally, and Mr. Barber, of Bouskeid—both object; the former claiming compensation for any loss to his fishing below the falls that might result, while the latter objects to the loss of amenity which he thinks would be occasioned. In reference to these objections Mr. Young points out that under the existing Salmon Fishery Acts, District Boards can act in such a matter only by agreement with the proprietors, and that if the proprietors object the Board are powerless. The report proceeds to give particulars of a survey conducted by Mr. Young of all the waters above the falls which would be benefitted by the proposed ladder. After giving these particulars, which are of a very interesting nature, the report states that the area of the rivers and lochs that would be opened up by the suggested ladder would be about one fifth of the whole amount of water in Scotland at present barred against the ascent of salmon by unpassable waterfalls. It would, it is said, be a grand and, there is no doubt, a successful experiment, to inaugurate the opening up of this vast extent of loch and river, by commencing with the Falls of Tummel; and Mr. Young respectfully expresses the hope that the Fishery Board will recommend that the work be carried out. As an illustration of the results that might be expected from the improvement, a statement is made as to the success which has attended the construction of a ladder at Ballisodare, county Sligo, from which fishery 10,000 salmon are now caught in a single year, in the waters above the falls at Ballisodare Mills, from which they were formerly excluded. The board will have this report under consideration at the next meeting.

NEW LOCH TROUT HATCHERY AT LINLITHGOW.—On Monday last a trout hatchery erected on the north side of Linlithgow Loch, by Messrs. John Anderson and Sons, fishmongers, of Edinburgh, with the purpose of stocking that loch, which they have leased from the Government, with an abundant supply of trout, was formally inaugurated in the presence of a large company of interested gentlemen. The hatchery is a stone building with a concrete floor, 35 feet long, by 15 feet broad. Placed in the usual vertical order, and in three rows with passages between, are fifty troughs, thirty-six of which are composed of glazed terra cotta, and the remaining fourteen of wood. These troughs are capable of hatching upwards of 600,000 fish, and at present it is believed 400,000 are being reared. Most of the ova deposited in the hatchery were taken from Loch Leven trout. Some of the troughs contain fry hatched from the ova of Whitadder trout, impregnated with the milt of Cobbinshaw trout, and these are expected to turn out strong healthy fish. In one tank are 300 or 400 salmon fry hatched out of spawn taken from two dead salmon found in the River Teith. All the fry seem healthy. Outside the hatchery, on a lower level, are two large tanks the one 50 feet by 5 feet, and the other 120 ft. by 59 ft. The smaller tank, through which a continuous stream of water rapidly flows, has been made for the purpose of receiving the fry from the hatchery as soon as they have attained a certain size, and allows them to escape into the loch by means of the burn, when they are considered sufficiently large to hold their own against other fish in the loch. In the large pond it is intended to keep as many trout as are necessary to stock the hatchery with every year. Provost Mackie, of Linlithgow, declared the Loch open, and three hearty cheers were given for Mr. Anderson, on whose invitation upwards of forty gentlemen subsequently dined in the Star and Garter Hotel.

UNITED LONDON FISHERIES SOCIETY.—The spawning perch were removed from the hatching boxes at St. Margaret's, on Saturday last, in a very healthy condition, and placed in the river. The boxes at Waltham were cleared of the spawning fish on the 25th inst. and returned to the river. We have abundance of perch fry.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

On Monday last two men appeared on a summons before Mr. Hannay, at Worship Street Police Court, charged by T. Verdun, fishery bailiff, of Clapton, with attempting to take fish from the river Lea during the fence months. The defendants pleaded guilty. The magistrate remarked the river must be protected for the benefit of the public for legitimate angling. As there had been no previous complaint against them, he fined them each 5s. and costs.

POLLUTION OF THE WHARF AT OTLEY.—GOOD NEWS FOR ANGLERS.—At a meeting of the Otley Local Board held on Monday evening, a letter, the contents of which will be read with satisfaction by anglers, was read from Mr. A. Fawkes's steward, as follows:—

Dear Sir,—I write on behalf of Mr. Fawkes, of Farnley Hall, to beg you will call the attention of your board to the serious pollution of the river Wharfe now taking place owing to discoloured water which is daily discharged into the river Wharfe from the works of Mr. Garnett at the Otley Mills, and which I cannot but think is in direct contravention of the Rivers Pollution Act, and the powers for the prevention of which are, I believe, in the hands of your board. Mr. Fawkes is most unwilling as a neighbour to take any steps that might appear antagonistic either to Mr. Garnett or to the Local Board, but requests that the serious attention of the board be given to this matter, so as to prevent the necessity of his having to take any more stringent measures thereon. An early answer will oblige, yours faithfully,

Mr. H. J. Newstead, Otley.

BEN. HAWORTH-BOOTH.

After discussion, it was resolved that a copy of the letter be immediately forwarded to Mr. Garnett, and that an intimation be given to Mr. Fawkes that the matter should be inquired into with a view to stopping the pollution.

GEORGE JAMES EATON, of Stirkholmes, Matlock-Bath, Derbyshire, respectfully invites Noblemen and Gentlemen to try his standard FLIES for the present season. No flies sent or made up but what he himself has proved sure killers. A trial is all that is required, from gentlemen who can fish, to prove whether they may be genuine or not. Patronised by some of the best fishermen of the day. All flies dressed on the best Kendal hooks. Prices; Point Flies, 2s. 6d. per Dozen; Dropper Flies, 2s. per Dozen. Orders punctually attended to.—(ADVT.)

CLUB REPORTS.

BLOOMSBURY BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of the members and friends of the above club was held at the club house, the Rose and Crown, Broad Street, on Wednesday, May 21st. A capital supper was put on the table in Host Smith's best style. The chair was taken by Mr. Jas. Seymour, faced by Mr. A. Wilshaw; and the toast list, interspersed with some capital songs, caused the time to roll rapidly and pleasantly along. In response to the toast of "The Visitors," coupled with the prizes given, Mr. J. Coulson commented on the confidence that prize givers had in supporting our club, from the fact that in every competition the most impartial fair play was shown by our members in honestly endeavouring to be successful where it was only possible for one to succeed. Mr. J. A. Comm responded for the prize winners expressing thanks for the support and good feeling shown the club, and the determination of all its members to maintain its reputation for good angling and straightforward management. Among the members and visitors who favoured us by their presence and delightful harmony must be mentioned Messrs. W. Allcom, Jas. Barr, Paddy Gill, E. Jacobs, C. Dawson, Seymour, sen., Chart, Scott, Clark, G. Thomas, Loomes, &c., &c.—A. WILSHAW.

GREAT NORTHERN BROTHERS ANGLING SOCIETY.

Our 21st annual distribution of prizes took place on Monday last. Mr. Theobald, chairman; Mr. J. Dingley, vice. The society prizes were first distributed for gross weight of all fish, £1 10s. Mr. G. Watling, 148 lb. 7 oz.; Mr. J. Watling (2nd), 109 lb. 6 oz.; Mr. J. Dingley (3rd), 108 lb. 11 oz.; Mr. Theobald (4th), 101 lb. 10 oz. Heaviest jack, Mr. C. Warren, 11 lb.; heaviest roach, Mr. J. Fitch, 1 lb. 13 oz.; heaviest bream, Mr. F. Watling, 2 lb. 8 oz.; heaviest chub, Mr. P. Stammer, 4 lb. 2 oz.; heaviest perch, Mr. C. Watling, sen., 1 lb. 12½ oz.; heaviest dace, Mr. J. K. Fitch, 12 oz. Other specimen fish prizes not taken. The gift prizes numbered 103. The principal winners are Messrs. J. C. and F. Watling, Dingley, P. Stammer, Theobald, C. Warren, J. A. Fitch, J. K. Fitch, G. Cowper, E. Young, W. Parkin Baker, Jukes, Martinella, Scott Page, and R. Hall. Mr. G. Watling took the largest number of prizes, viz. 16. The secretary gave a brief account of the progress of the society, stating that the number of members who cleared the books on the annual night exceed that of any previous year, and the cash in hand amounted to £18 19s. 9d. We had a large number of visitors from various clubs, and a most enjoyable evening was spent. A hearty vote of thanks to the chairman and vice-chairman brought the meeting to a close. The annual supper will take place on Wednesday, June 11. We have a few vacancies for good working anglers.—J. FITCH.

GRESHAM ANGLING SOCIETY.

The ordinary weekly meeting of the above society was held on Tuesday evening, at the Mason's Hall Tavern, Mason's Avenue, Basinghall Street, Mr. Crumple in the chair. There was a very good attendance of members and visitors. The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, Mr. E. J. Powell was proposed for election as a member of the society by Mr. Bentley. Mr. Bates seconded the nomination, and the ballot was fixed for the 15th proximo. Mr. Thomas gave a highly interesting account of his recent visit to Loch Leven, where he had represented the Gresham Society in the National Angling Competition. He expressed his great satisfaction at the cordial reception which he met with there. He had also proposed a resolution, which was unanimously carried, that in future no angling society should be represented by more than one competitor. Mr. Thomas's account was listened to with the greatest satisfaction by all present, and at the conclusion of it a very hearty and sincere vote of thanks was moved by Mr. Bates, seconded by Mr. Field, and unanimously carried. The paper will be printed and sent to each member. It was decided to hold the annual meeting on the 10th June, and to invite Mr. Bates to take the chair on the occasion. The remainder of the evening was devoted to Mr. Parker's lecture on "Music," in the course of which that gentleman retrieved his promise made at the previous meeting to enable two of the members owing to an utter ignorance of the art of pianoforte playing to execute two brilliant airs upon that instrument as the result of his twenty minutes' lecture, an achievement which it is only fair to add, was accomplished by means of an instrument known as the "Miranda Pianista." A vote of thanks to the chairman terminated a very pleasant evening.—H.

HOXTON BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

The general return visit was paid to this society on Thursday week, May 22nd. There was a very large attendance, twenty-one clubs being represented. Mr. W. Midson was chairman, faced by Mr. Norman. Excellent singing was the order of the evening. The next visit will be paid to the Reform Angling Society, after the holidays, due notice of which will be given.—R. GHURNEY.

IZAACK WALTON ANGLING SOCIETY.

The distribution of annual and special prizes will take place on Wednesday next, June 4th.

RICHMOND PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

An interesting meeting of this society was held, under the chairmanship of Mr. A. J. Settle, at the club-room on Wednesday, Mr. Ferguson in the vice-chair. There is hardly a meeting unless new members are elected, and a large number of additional prizes were added to the prize list by Messrs. Bingley, W. Abbott, A. Abbott, jun., G. H. Hester, J. Plant, W. T. Johnson, J. W. Perkins, and J. Gaunt. The chairman read two telegrams he had received from Mr. J. F. Wheelton, an honorary member of the society, announcing the capture of two trout, which weighed respectively about 11 lb. and 5 lb., at Moulsey. The chairman made a statement of facts that had come under his observation with reference to the roach spawn at Eel Pie Island, and expressed his opinion, and the opinion of others, that the whole of the immense amount of spawn had vivified, and that the period requisite for the process was from five to eight days, according to the temperature of the weather. Mr. Cockburn moved a vote of thanks should be forwarded to the Thames Angling Preservation Society for the action they had taken on the tideway, with reference to the better protection and preservation of roach spawn at Eel Pie Island.

RODNEY PISCATORIALS.

Members of the above society requiring any of the undermentioned tickets, are requested to give in their names as early as possible:—R. R. Privilege, Anglers' Benevolent Society, South London United Competition, and Amberley and Pulborough. Members are requested to attend on quarterly night,

June 4th, to arrange prizes for the first competition. On the 28th inst., Mr. Friedel was elected a member of this society.—**Pixie**

THE PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

The usual weekly meeting of this society was held on Monday last at Ashley's Hotel, Covent Garden. Amongst the members present were Messrs. Patisson, Jesse, Gray, Gillatt, Meyer, Booker, Fenning, Lemann, T. Huggett, H. B. Brown, Dr. Brunton, Rev. G. Sumner, Bromley, Bennett, Robinson, Hill, J. Lander, hon. sec., &c. Mr. W. B. Adlington was unanimously voted to the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Mr. Meyer (one of our new members) said he had much pleasure in rising to propose a new member, which announcement was received with applause. Mr. H. B. Brown has been fishing at Hertford on Wednesday last. He commenced early, but the weather was so cold the fish did not rise. About 8 o'clock in the morning he took a nice fish, which he landed without gaff or net, and weighed in at these rooms. Dr. Brunton had pleasure in giving the society a short description of the Loch Leven trout contest, the doctor and Mr. Elder having represented this society on the occasion. It had been his intention to go North a few days prior to the contest (but was prevented) so as to have a little practice on the Loch, the fishing there being so essentially different from that on the Southern rivers, in which he has lately been angling. He announced that the Piscatorial Society was now duly enrolled in the books of the National Angling Club as one of the competitors. All the competitors assembled on the Loch Leven quay, and at the word "go" all were off in their various boats. The wind was S.W., and they fished from the shallows into the deep. They tried all the standard Loch Leven flies without effect; at last the doctor produced from his fly-book a fly which, in his opinion, no Loch Leven trout had ever seen before, and he soon rose and killed a fish with the same. Then Mr. Elder took one, and so on. The result of their day's fishing was not good; they only succeeded in taking nine fish. There were thirty-six competitors, and 139 trout killed. The winners of last year were not the successful ones on the present occasion. To our member, Dr. Brunton, falls the honour of having killed the largest fish of the competition, a beauty weighing 2 lb. 9 oz. His remarks were deservedly applauded. The Rev. G. Sumner remarked that the Loch Leven competitions had generally been gained by dragging the flies, but experience had lately proved that continual casting was the essence of success. "The Health of Dr. Brunton" was then drank most heartily, and he duly responded. Mr. Patisson, spinning a minnow, captured one nice trout in the Lea, and two jack, which were very properly returned. Mr. Lemann has been essaying those spinning flies he lately exhibited in the rooms of the society. The perch run at and seize them freely, but he has not succeeded up to the present in getting a Thames trout in the humour to try them. A nice fish was taken at Boulter's Weir, weight 10 lb., while Mr. Lemann was in the neighbourhood. Mr. Adlington has been fishing at Axminster (Devon), from the George Hotel; the monthly trout tickets are 15s. On the first afternoon he killed three trout; second day, five trout; third day, eleven trout; fourth day, no sizeable fish. The fish above referred to average from 8 oz. to 12 oz., and give very nice sport indeed; taking it altogether, Mr. Adlington was highly pleased with the place and its fishing. The Rev. G. Sumner, in a few well-chosen remarks, deprecated the prevailing custom of live-bait fishing for Thames trout, and wished to know if the practice was fully recognised as "fair fishing" by the Piscatorial and other leading angling societies. The chairman and Mr. Lemann, and others, took part in the discussion, with the result that, although a few members spoke in its favour, and as the only way of capturing these wary, old, and large fish, other members, and I think the majority, are averse to the practice, and hardly consider it "fair fishing." The toast, "The Continued Success of our Society," was, as usual, drank, and "The Health of the Chairman," and that gentleman having very gracefully replied, the business of the meeting was brought to a close. No meeting at our society on Monday next, the same being Bank Holiday.—**T. H.**

WALWORTH PISCATORIALS.

At the general meeting held on the 22nd, by the members of the above, for the purpose of confirming the rules presented by the committee elected to compile the same, Mr. Russell presided; among those present being Messrs. Boalch, Bayley, Bedford, Delhaye, Dale, Fox, Gilbert, Hawkrigge, Bainsback, Mawbey, Curtis, H. Quodling, and several others. The first question arose as to the title of the society, and on putting it to the vote, it was soon settled that the above should be the name by which this society in future shall be known; and all communications for the late Walworth Waltonians, and the late Surrey Piscatorials, must be addressed to the Walworth Piscatorials, the St. Paul's, Westmorland Road, Walworth. The penalty clause came next for discussion, and, after hearing the Fors and Againsts, it was carried. It stands as follows:—"The winner of a £3 3s. od. prize to carry 1 lb.; the winner of a £2 2s. od., $\frac{1}{2}$ lb.; and the winner of £1 1s. od., $\frac{1}{4}$ lb.; and all fish weighed in this society to be subject to the Thames rules." The following were the officers elected for this season:—Chairman, Mr. H. Bayley; vice-chairman, Mr. Duck; treasurer, Mr. Bainsback; and chief secretary, Mr. J. Boalch. In consequence of that old and much-respected member of the Walworth Waltonians, Mr. G. H. Fox, having retired to the Crown and Anchor Inn, Woking Village, Surrey, it is proposed to test his abilities as "Mine Host," by having the first competition of the season in that neighbourhood. His place is pleasantly situated, and has a large room, and every convenience for large or small parties. This special accommodation for anglers must be tested by anglers themselves, as "the proof of the pudding," &c., &c. I have known Mr. Fox some time, and I think he knows what most anglers require. Members are requested not to forget next Thursday evening, sharp.—**Pixie**

WALTONIANS.

A special meeting was called for Wednesday, May 28, when the following resolution was proposed by Mr. Starr, and seconded by Mr. Skeats, and carried unanimously:—"That this society views with alarm and regret the state of disunion existing among the anglers of London, who, as a body, have one sole and indivisible interest. We, therefore, appeal earnestly to every individual angler to do all in his power to promote the union of the three associations into one, on a fair representative system, as being the only means likely to preserve to us permanently our valuable privileges on the railways, to administer our funds with efficiency and economy, and to effectually promote the best interests of London anglers generally."—**A. J. MARriott**.

YARMOUTH PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

At the usual meeting, on Tuesday, the secretary reported 115 lb. of bream weighed in from Fritton by Dr. Mitchell and Mr. Freeman, 50 fish averaging 2 lb. each. Also Messrs. Lee and Bonfellow, 63 lb. weight of bream, averaging the same weight per fish, also caught at Tritton, both catches on Friday, the 23rd. I may also add that the fish were remarkably clean, much more so than I have seen from those waters for some time past. This is truly gratifying, as Fritton fish have been too often looked upon as very muddy, but which they are not, or I should not have had so many applications by poor persons for them on Saturday morning, to whom I take pleasure in giving them. I say, Mr. Marston, Yarmouth people begin to like them. They only want properly cooking, and we have an abundance in our waters, in spite of all poaching, and shall have more before we have less. I am glad, also, to say we have another influential member added this week to the roll.—**J. LARK, hon. sec.**

UNDER DISTINGUISHED PATRONAGE.

THE

Fourth Annual "Fishing Gazette"

FLY AND BAIT-CASTING

TOURNAMENT

in aid of the Funds of the

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will commence in the Grounds of

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This will be a series of Open Competitions for Prizes given for the best Throws in the various styles of Fishing. N.B.—A most interesting meeting is expected, and London and Provincial Anglers should embrace this rare opportunity of witnessing how Experts Manipulate their Rods and Tackle.

PROGRAMME—

Entrance Fees to Competitors will be 5s. for the Salmon, 2s. 6d. for the Trout, and 1s. each for each of the others. Anglers desiring to compete should forward Name and Address to Editor of the FISHING GAZETTE, 12, Fetter Lane, London, before 21st July. Anglers to find Rods and Lines within the prescribed lengths for the various Competitions.

SALMON and TROUT FLY-CASTING COMPETITIONS, under the management of **MR. GEO. M. KELSON**. Golden and Silver Egg Cups will be given for the Salmon Competition.

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A TWO HOURS' FISHING MATCH (Peg-down) for which Prizes will be given.

Further information may be obtained on application to Editor, FISHING GAZETTE, 12, Fetter Lane, E.C.; or to Mr. R. Ghurney, Secretary Anglers' Benevolent Society, 10, Batches Row, Charles Square, Hoxton, E.

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The Fishing Gazette.

SATURDAY, JUNE 7, 1884.

WHIT-MONDAY TROUT-FISHING.

By R. B. MARSTON.

FOR many years past I have made a point of having a day's fishing in that charming little trout stream, the Darenth, in Kent. Generally it has been in the Red Lion Hotel water at Farningham; but Whit Monday is not a day on which to expect much sport there—there are far too many anglers about. So I asked a friend who has a fine stretch of water if he could find room for me, and he very kindly did so. The Darenth, like most other streams, last week was extremely low—so low that the millers could only work off the water in the mill pound, and then wait until it slowly fills again, consequently the water below runs, or rather creeps, in its channel between the weed beds, and the trout wisely confine their attention to grubbing on the bottom in the cool shade of the weeds. Now and then you may see one feeding on fly, but the attempt to get your fly over him generally ends in your catching in the weeds and scaring him. Though in other respects the day was all that could be wished, the strong wind, which seemed to blow from all quarters at once, made it a most difficult matter to stretch the fly out cleanly and straight. You did not know how to calculate for it; indeed, if I had not provided myself with a powerful 14-foot double-handed rod I should have been nonplussed. Some year or two back, when fishing in Hampshire with Mr. Francis Francis, I was very much struck with a 14-foot rod of greenheart which he was using. He told me it was made to his pattern by Mr. Charles Farlow, of the Strand. On Saturday I called at Mr. Farlow's shop to get some of his yellow duns, and asked his manager if he had one of Mr. Francis's pattern rods in stock. He produced one, the play of which brought back Mr. F.'s rod to my mind directly, and I bought it. It is 3-joint greenheart—a lovely piece of wood and work. I confess that I had always had a prejudice against double-handed fly rods; but last Whit-Monday on the Darenth entirely removed it, and in future I shall always use one on any water where long casting is necessary, or where the fish have to be kept out of weed beds. For rapid streams in which you can wade and cast the fly right and left and up and down, a 10-foot rod is much more comfortable to fish with, for the simple reason that the longer rod's advantages come into play just where the short one's leave off. It is difficult to manage a short line well on a long rod—it wants a good weight of line to bring out its play properly. I was having a chat about rods with my friend Mr. Senior ("Red Spinner") the other day. He had been fishing in the Kennet at Hungerford, and found his small rod almost useless, though he managed to get a $3\frac{1}{2}$ lb. fish with it. I do not believe in giving a fish a moment more time than he will take, and I found that another advantage of a long rod is that it enables you to kill your fish much more expeditiously. The fish were rising fairly well when I commenced, and in less than two hours I had four brace of very pretty trout, most of them got by underhand casting from between a row of willows to the opposite side of the stream, the fish lying within a foot of the bank. I could not have done it at all with a short rod in the

strong wind. The fly I used was the yellow dun, Farlow's pattern, an old-fashioned one, but one of the best in my opinion, as it dries quickly and floats well. As an experiment, I had painted the hooks of some of these duns with Judson's gold paint, and the way the trout, even in almost dead water where it was sheltered and smooth as glass, would take them was refreshing to see. It is not a new idea of mine, but I never gave it a good trial before. My theory is that when you use a fly with light wing and light body, the fish are less likely to notice a hook which harmonises in colour with the fly than one of a startling black or blue description as commonly used. Trout are getting so uncommonly cautious that the angler must use his best wits to deceive them, and if our fly makers would make the colour of the hook harmonise with the colour of the fly—I would paint the hooks for the grannom green, for the orange or yellow fly orange, for the brown flies brown, and so on—I am sure anglers would get heavier baskets. The advantage of whipping worm hooks with red silk or red wax has long been recognised. I use Judson's gold paint because it sticks on well and does not in any way clog the barb as oil paint might; it can also be used with effect on the wings and hackles of flies. I got one trout of a pound, and rose others on a red palmer with a gilded hook and gilded hackle points, and I only tried it for half an hour, and when the mill had stopped.

Messrs. Macey and Sons, fly dressers, Aylesbury, Bucks, sent me a selection of their "Perfect Little Gem" patterns the other day—detached-bodied duns of various kinds—and very nice they are; in fact, I do not remember to have seen more neatly made flies of this description. I cannot say that I have ever found these detached-bodied flies, a bit more killing than the old patterns—not that they are new by any means, for Blacker describes and illustrates them fully in his "Art of Fly Dressing," published thirty years ago. "Larva" he calls them, though it is a misnomer, for they represent the insect in its perfect state. These detached-bodied flies are usually sold at 5s. the dozen, as they entail a good deal of work in the making. I can recommend Messrs. Macey's work highly.

"They have given over rising; won't you come and have some lunch?" my friend says. An invitation I most willingly accept, for an early breakfast, to catch an early train, is rarely a substantial meal. After lunch, I went on up-stream, but the water was very low; and, after returning four or five brace of fish under the 10 oz. limit, and leaving three flies in good fish, I gave over for the day. In using a double-handed rod and fine-drawn gut there is some danger in striking; if you hit the least bit too hard you smash off the fly. The rings on my new rod were not loose enough, and stuck at all angles, so that striking from the winch did not get over the difficulty always, though I found Reuben Heaton's "strike from the winch" reel, which he made at my suggestion, simply perfect—you can regulate it to any "pull" you like, it is perfectly noiseless; in fact, I could find no fault with it in any way. My friend drove me to the station to catch my train; we calculated it would arrive late, but found it started from the station and had just done so. So we returned, and had a long, pleasant chat over a cigar about things in general and angling in particular.

I had got five brace of trout, weighing between 11 and 12 lb.—a very good average for this water: some were Loch Leven trout, put in a year or two ago by my friend: they have done remarkably well. It is always pleasant to have a fairly successful day; but it is doubly so when your host tells you that he likes to see you successful, and offers you another day as a proof of his sincerity! In this case my friend told me that he was sometimes asked for permission from gentlemen who professed to be great bunglers and to know nothing about it, "I always refuse such requests, and dislike nothing so much as seeing a man thrashing away all day, doing nothing himself and spoiling the chance of those who can." Let this be a hint to some of my readers—my friend is by means alone in his dislike!

The next train was ten something, according to the time table, and we went to catch it; but dozens of expresses had gone through, and twelve something had arrived before I disturbed—regretfully disturbed—a young couple in a first-class compartment of a train which did deign to stop at such an out-of-the-way little place. It had been a long, cold wait on the platform. I had a chat with an angler who had been to the Lion, and done nothing—no one had done much.

"How many were fishing?" I asked.

"Well, six or seven from the lawn [about fifty yards of water] and as many below and above!"

The lawn at the Red Lion! What a charming spot it is, and what fine trout I have had from it; and one evening at dusk I hooked a bat, which got my gut cast a dozen times round the wire railing, and then bit my finger, before I discovered what on earth was the reason of all the tangle. The "Lion" has taken some more water under his care now—above Farningham—and if

any reader of these lines wants to know where he can get a bit of really good trout fishing, within twenty miles of London, I can advise him to make the acquaintance of the "Lion." He will see plenty of trout—the water above and below and in between the bits belonging to the hotel is most strictly preserved, and this ensures always plenty of fish, for trout will come to the good feeding places, and when one is caught another takes his place as soon as he can believe his eyes that it is vacant and that he won't get rushed at by that big brother, who is now cutting capers in the frying pan. Do not choose a half holiday or a bank holiday, and you are all the more likely to get the water to yourself. The last time I was there I got seven trout, which weighed 10 lb. and a soaking to the skin from one of the most violent rain storms I was ever in—it only lasted a few minutes, but the water came down in sheets—but I was fast in a big trout which I had had on for ten minutes, and no rain would have troubled me. I shall never forget that trout! He took my fly—a wee midge—with no more commotion than a minnow would make. I never once saw him, but he kept steadily sailing up and down for fifteen minutes and then started slowly down stream below our boundary—but for a wide and deep ditch I would have followed him past forty boundaries—then with all my line out, I was obliged to cry "hold!" He simply rushed from the centre of the stream into a bed of flags or other tall weeds, and my line came home as light as my heart felt heavy. The village of Farningham is very pretty and the Darent valley very lovely—indeed if you get not even a rise, it is well worth a visit. I always go from Ludgate Hill to Farningham Road Station, and walk the two or three miles to Farningham for the sake of the walk.

One cannot expect the railway companies to be punctual on such a fine day as last Whit Monday,—everyone takes the inevitable delay with good humour, and only trusts that the apparently endless expresses and specials will all get along with safety. One poor working man I saw waiting for his train, patiently walked up and down the platform, humming the fag end of a song and telling everyone who would listen to him that he had been seven hours doing a one hour's journey, and when he got to the end of it, where should he go? "Well, there's always one place we can go to, that's a consolation—the police station!" I had no ambition to go there, but was very nearly "run in" all the same, for when I got to West Croydon I had to walk a mile or more. I noticed at a dark corner a policeman examining door fastenings, with his bull's-eye. My rubber boots made no noise on the asphalt, but his eye caught me, "Hullo! who are you?" I took no notice, feeling innocent. Presently I heard him running after me, and was tapped on the shoulder. "Well," I said, "what do you want?" "Why don't you stop when the police call you!" "Why should I?"—then the bull's-eye rummaged me over, "What's this?" "Why, a fishing rod—what do you think?" "Think, why it may be a loaded gun for all I know: where have you been?" "Fishing. I tell you; you can see the fish if you like," and I opened my creel, and I suppose for the first time a policeman's bull's-eye showed up the spots on trout. "It's not dynamite, you see," I said, and he grudgingly assented that they "didn't smell like it!" It was just two o'clock in the morning when I got home, and if I had cared to stay and argue with my friend, I have no doubt it would have been four o'clock, for he could not get over the fact that I had not instantly stopped when called upon by "the police."

THE HOME SECRETARY AND TOTTENHAM SEWAGE.

WITH regard to the Sewage of Tottenham polluting the river Lea, and the Government inquiry held in January last, the Lea Conservancy Board have received the decision of the Home Secretary to the effect that he has no alternative but to declare that the purification and disinfection of the sewage matter through the works of the Tottenham Local Board are not effected to his satisfaction.

The Tottenham Board are enlarging their works, and the Conservators will follow up the Home Secretary's decision by such steps as will compel the Local Board effectually to remove and discontinue the pollution. It is hoped that by this time next year the condition of the river in the neighbourhood of the Tottenham Sewage Works will be considerably improved.

CAPTURE OF SEVERN SALMON.

THERE have recently been some very good captures of Severn salmon near Shrewsbury. A few days ago Mr. Parr, of Cressage, while netting just below Atcham Bridge, was fortunate enough to secure three salmon, weighing 35 lb., 21½ lb., and 10 lb. respectively. Large numbers of fish are reported as being in this quarter of the Severn.

CLUB AND OTHER JOTTINGS.

By L. B.

THE NEW "ANGLERS' ASSOCIATION."

A SPECIALLY-SUMMONED meeting of the West Central Association of London and Provincial Angling Societies took place at the Portman Arms, Great Quebec Street, Baker Street, on Friday evening, May 30th, the object being to consider and decide the question of proposed amalgamation of the three Central Associations. Mr. Geen occupied the chair, Mr. Beckett facing him in the vice.

The following are the resolutions drawn up and recommended by the committee (three gentlemen from each association) elected to consider and report on the proposed consolidation of angling interests:—

Those present were of opinion that amalgamation was desirable, provided such terms could be agreed upon as would meet the approval of the associations.

Representation.—Clubs taking less than thirty tickets, one delegate; clubs taking more than thirty tickets and less than one hundred, two delegates; and clubs taking more than one hundred, three delegates.

The new Association to be worked by three committees of twelve, and a chairman for each; one to be named the "Preservation Committee," another the "Benevolent Committee," and the third the "Finance and Railway Concession Committee."

A "General Purpose or Grand Committee," to be composed of the three aforesaid committees of twelve, to consider such matters as may be referred to it by the delegates at their monthly meetings.

That there shall be a president, vice-president, treasurer, secretary, and three trustees, and that these officers, together with the three committees, shall be elected annually at the annual meeting of delegates; but for the first year they shall be elected by the three associations, each association to elect a third of such committee-men and officers.

The Anglers' Benevolent.—Membership to remain the same, with a separate fund, but to be managed by a committee of twelve and a chairman.

The Fisheries Society to be dissolved, and its work to be done by the Preservation Committee.

The new Association to be called "The Anglers' Association."

Meeting Nights.—Delegate meetings once a month, first Monday; Anglers' Benevolent, second and fourth Monday; Preservation Committee, third Monday; Finance and Railway Concession Committee, second Monday.

The secretary to be a permanent and paid officer, only to be removed by a special meeting, convened for the purpose. The salary to commence at £100 per annum.

Each of the three present Associations to elect four committee-men for the Anglers' Benevolent Committee, four for the Preservation Committee, and four for the Finance and Railway Concession Committee, and a trustee.

The East-Central Committee to elect the general secretary and the chairman of the Anglers' Benevolent Committee.

The West-Central the president and chairman for the Finance and Railway Concession Committee.

The Central the vice-president and treasurer and the chairman of the Preservation Committee.

The yearage to be 2s. as hitherto.

The following are the minutes of the meeting, by which it will be seen the above recommendations were unanimously carried:—

Secretary read circular convening meeting.

Secretary then read the suggestions which had been agreed upon at the meetings of the representatives of the three associations.

Mr. Geen explained them. Mr. Beckett and Mr. Tibbatts followed, they being the representatives of the West Central.

Proposed by Mr. Adean, seconded by Mr. H. W. Cox: "That the suggestions as read be accepted as the basis of an Amalgamation of the three Associations, and that we immediately proceed to the election of the officers apportioned to us"—carried.

Proposed by Mr. Green, seconded by Mr. Humphries: "That Mr. Geen be the president of the Anglers' Association"—carried.

Proposed by Mr. Dean, seconded by Mr. Page: "That Mr. W. H. Beckett be the chairman of the Finance and Railway Concession Committee"—carried.

Proposed by Mr. Star, seconded by Mr. Battery: "Mr. Townsend be trustee"—carried.

Anglers' Benevolent—Messrs. Jennings, Adean, Hotham, and Page.

Preservation Committee—Messrs. Hobden, Cox, Welch, and Thorling.

Finance and Railway Concession Committee—Messrs. Tibbatts, Bonvoisin, Murphy, and Star.

Proposed by Mr. Pain, seconded by Mr. Sutters: "That a

cordial vote of thanks be tendered to those gentlemen who had been appointed to represent the West Central Association at the meetings of the three Associations"—carried.

Proposed by Mr. Humphries, seconded by Mr. Page: "That a hearty vote of thanks be given to Mr. Tibbatts for the very able and efficient manner in which he has conducted the business of the West Central Association during the time he has held the office of secretary"—carried unanimously.

Upon the roll being called the following fifty-two clubs were found to be represented:—Anglers' Pride, Acton Piscatorials, Acorn, Bostonian, Battersea Friendly, Bloomsbury Brothers, Brothers Well Met, Beresford, Brompton, Clapham Junction, Cambridge Friendly, Cobden, Crescent, Duke of Norfolk, Ealing Dean, Golden Barbel, Good Intent, Globe, Gresham, Hammersmith Club, Hammersmith United, Highbury, Hampstead, Independent Jovial, Junior Piscatorial, Kenningtonian, Kingsland Brothers, L. and S. W. Railway, Marylebone, Marlboro, Magdala, Norfolk, North-Western, Penge, Phoenix, Prince of Wales, Portsmouth Waltonian, Peckham Brothers, Princess of Wales, Putney United, Queen's, Royal George, Rodney, St. John's, Sir Hugh Myddleton, South London, True Waltonians, United Marlboro' Brothers, Waltonians, Walworth, West Central, Westbourne Park;—the usual vote of thanks to the chair and vice chair bringing the meeting to a close.

A similar meeting was held on the same evening by the United London Anglers' Central Committee, at the Bald Faced Stag, Worship Square, Finsbury, at which identical resolutions were read. I have not received authentic particulars of the meeting, beyond the all-important fact that amalgamation on the proposed basis was accepted. Mr. Ghurney's name is freely mentioned on all sides for the secretaryship of the new association. Let us hope our friends at the East, with whom the election to the post rests, will choose this old and tried friend of anglers for an office for which he is so admirably suited.

From what I hear, I have every reason to hope the principle of amalgamation on the fair basis proposed will (if, indeed, it has not already) be accepted by the Central, or third, association.

[Mr. Ghurney's thorough knowledge of the London angling club system, and long experience, exactly fit him for the position of secretary of the London anglers. We all know him to be an enthusiastic angler, and an earnest worker in the interest of anglers.—ED.]

ON THE DESCRIPTION OF SALMON FLIES.

By MR. GEO. M. KELSON.

MAJOR TRAHERNE'S PATTERNS—(Continued).

NO. 2.—JUNO.

FLY-MAKING is a subject which is frequently discussed amongst salmon anglers, though but little understood. There is no branch in the sport on which our ideas are so confused and so thoroughly opposed to each other's, unless it be in the selection by the river side of what we intend to use.

I have previously hinted that a little delicate deviation from the strict rules for correct blending is advantageous sometimes, but inexperienced amateurs should be cautious how they depart from principles which have been received generally, because founded on solid reasons; and how they relinquish customs which have been practically proved to be good.

It is a favourite dogma among modern writers on colour that "warm colours," perhaps reds and yellows, approach, or rather convey, nearness; and that blue, grey, and other retiring colours express distance. Such tenets most assuredly are absurd, for so far is this from being the case, that no expression of distance in the wide world is so great as that of the gold and orange which we often observe in the twilight sky. Colours, as such, are absolutely inexpressive respecting distance. It is their quality, their depth, or their delicacy which expresses distance—it cannot be their tint. It is quite true that, in certain objects, blue is a sign of distance, not because blue is a retiring colour, but because the mist in the air is blue, and, therefore, any warm colour which has not strength of light enough to pierce the mist is lost or subdued in its blue. When stones are seen through brown water, the deeper they may appear to lie the browner they look. There is, therefore, I think, one law about distance which has some claims to be considered a constant one—namely, that dulness and heaviness of colour are more or less indicative of nearness.

Surely this reasoning is admissible; and, if so, why should it not be admitted that we are thus naturally led to mount dull, dark flies in coloured water, and bright or brilliant ones when the water is clear?

The working powers of our leading English gentlemen have been dwelt upon by very able pens, suggesting opinions complimentary enough, though directed probably only to political parties or even to the gentlemen in Throgmorton Street, with their three-fifths and a sixteenth multifarious calculations. Might not similar favourable opinions be expressed of the work in the art of artificial entomology?

Referring to Major Traherne's patterns, we all know that they are

killers; each one is more or less different in character and appearance from our ordinary stock. Indeed, his familiarity with the subject has given him competency, and in his power of invention, in his delicate manipulation, he has scarcely a single rival.

A peep at any of his cases and one would well wonder what birds there are to supply such beautiful feathers.

Though we may find quantities of birds that would provide fishermen with any envied colour, there are not so very many that are practically useful to us.

The Cock-of-the-rock, with its oily, ominous orange, splendid to look at, is one example; its feathers are far too limp to play properly in the water, and old fishermen never use them.

One of the best natural hackles, I believe, for very small flies can be obtained by holding that part of the blue chattering which is purple close to the fire for a minute or so, which will make the otherwise useless feathers under the neck change at once and for ever to a good red tint, and although so small, they are very animate hackles in the water.

The scarlet Ibis, though most useful in the wing and tail of a fly, is abominable as a hackle, and should never be employed for one. Neither should dyed blacks be used, but naturals, unless they are intended for very large or coarse flies.

Except in my own collection I never see Toucan legs; there are no feathers that behave so well as these in the water, and although they are rather diminutive in fibre and length of stem, it is simple enough to wind two together, and if that is insufficient, two more. No dye can produce a more perfect golden tinge, but they are only favoured when the water is very bright.



MAJOR TRAHERNE'S PATTERNS OF SALMON FLIES.—No. 2

Juno is also a fly for clear water, and another of Major Traherne's that may be entered in the list of "general flies."

Its description is as follows:—

Tag: Silver twist, and blue silk the same colour as the cheeks.

Tail: Topping.

Butt: Black herl.

Body: Orange silk half-way, the same shade as described in No. 1 illustration; and yellow silk the same tone as this hackle.

Hackle: Yellow macaw, from the yellow silk.

Ribbed: Silver lace, and silver tinsel.

Throat: Blue macaw.

Wings: Golden pheasant toppings.

Sides: Jungle fowl.

Cheeks: Kingfisher.

Horns: Blue macaw.

Head: Black herl.

And a magnificent fly this is. Where, indeed, is the fisherman who will not be struck with this lovely Juno! Shannon anglers need not be shy of her golden mane and tail, her natural petticoats of blue and yellow, her tag of floss, which combination would surely raise a dead 'un.

The harmony is simply superb, and it is here where scores of amateur dressers fail. I am not alluding to the every-day productions—the English or Welsh patterns, with merely claret bodies, turkey wings, a topping and a dollop of varnish at the head—but to real business, when, for instance, there are five or six dozen little feathers ordered for the body alone, which must taper as truly as one of Farlow's ferrules, and which, when completed, is to catch, instead of to scare, fish.

It will be seen in a week or two that I have under rather than over-rated these particulars. In my next illustration I shall be getting a trifle nearer to Major Traherne's more intricate and beautiful designs.

THE ROACH FRY AT TWICKENHAM.

THE results arising out of the successful protection of the roach spawn at Twickenham are of the most remarkable character, and an inspection of the shallows at the back of the Island Hotel is of a very interesting nature. I paid one of these visits in the afternoon of Wednesday last, and the amount of small fish life which I saw in the shallows was something worth talking about. The small fry of little more than a quarter of an inch in length, and about the thickness of a pin, were to be seen in countless multitudes—in some places the bed of the river was literally black with them. A publican's pint can was quickly introduced into the water, and on being brought out again it was found to contain so many of these youngsters they could be counted by the dozens, regardless of the fact that as water drinkers

they were inside an anti-temperance vessel. I should certainly recommend those who are interested in fish culture to pay a similar visit; and whether the head river keeper, who resides at Twickenham, is there or not, the results are patent to others who would no doubt gladly show them. The veteran ferryman, near the old church, who, like myself, has got into "the sere and yellow leaf," has taken a great interest in the work, and he told me after the vivification of the ova he never saw such a sight in his life. Of course the youngsters are now making use of their increased strength and have left the side of the river where they were hatched, and when I was there on Wednesday had shifted to the opposite side. The question which suggested itself to me at first was, the future of this vast family of roach. They are doubtless destined to afford sport to the humble angler, and to stock the fishery of Old Father Thames with an amount of roach life that will be of incalculable value to the brethren of the rod. Then another question not unnaturally arose to my mind—will the followers of Isaac Walton in the Tideway appreciate this movement of the Thames Angling Preservation Society, as I consider it to be one of the grandest works that has ever been done for the benefit of the anglers? Experience has not always proved a willingness on the part of those who desire the benefit to give a substantial recognition. But whether they do or not, in this instance the names of Mr. Thomas Spreckley, Mr. A. J. Little, and others will be associated with the first attempt of fish cultivation on the natural spawning ground of the roach by means of constructing homes under protection from the common enemy of the ova, and in bringing the work to an undoubtedly successful result.

[The fish have been protected and aided during their spawning in the manner suggested by Mr. R. B. Marston in his lectures and writings on Coarse Fish Culture.—ED.]

A FRESHWATER FISHERIES CONFERENCE.

WE have received from the "Fisheries Preservation Association" the following circular announcement of a Conference which is to be held on the 18th inst. of the Fishery Boards' Angling Societies, &c., on the subject of the By-laws to be framed (under the new Freshwater Fisheries Act) for regulating fishing in fresh water. Considering the great importance of the subject, we trust there will be a very full and representative attendance.

FISHERIES PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION,
(President—Lieut.-Gen. Lord Abinger, C.B.)
11, Seymour Street, Portman Square, W.,
June 2, 1884.

SIR,

The Freshwater Fisheries Act, 1884, which has just become law, has given power to Boards of Conservators to fix by By-law:—

1. The nets that may lawfully be used for taking fish other than salmon.
2. The mesh of such nets.
3. The length and size of such nets.
4. The way in which such nets may be used.
5. What modes of fishing may be practised for fish other than salmon.
6. What instruments of fishing should be used for fish other than salmon.

The By-laws made under the Act may, if the Boards think fit, apply to all waters, public and private.

Having regard to the importance of the subject, the Council of the Society have resolved to call a Conference of Representatives of Fishery Boards, Angling Societies, and others interested in the subject, to consider in what way these powers should be carried out.

The Conference will be held at the House of the Society of Arts, John Street, Adelphi, on the 18th June, 1884, at 12 o'clock (noon), when Mr. E. Birkbeck, M.P., will preside.

The questions to be discussed will be those mentioned below. The Council hope for the honour of your attendance, or of some other member of your Board.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
H. A. KINLOCH,
Secretary.

The Chairman of the ——— Fishery Board.
FOR DISCUSSION.

1. Is it desirable to abolish netting, in whole, or in part, in fresh water?
2. If the total abolition of netting is not desirable, is its partial abolition? and if so, in what cases and for what periods of the year?
3. If netting is to be permitted, what kind of nets should be allowed?
4. Should any limitation be placed on the length of any net?
5. Should any limitation be placed on the size of any net?
6. Should any rules be made as to the modes of using any net?
7. Should a *uniform mesh* of net for all fish, including salmon, be adopted?
8. What *mesh of net* do you recommend for freshwater fish?
9. Should this mesh of net apply to all fresh water during the whole year, or during any part or parts of the year?
10. What *modes of fishing* do you consider are prejudicial to the fisheries, and do you propose to abolish them wholly or partially, and either throughout the year or any particular part of it?
11. What *instruments of fishing* do you consider prejudicial to the fisheries, and do you propose to abolish them wholly or partially, either throughout the year or any particular part of it?

CLUB REPORTS.

ACTON PISCATORIALS.

A meeting of the above society was held on Tuesday evening, when the following officers were elected for the ensuing twelve months:—Dr. Lingham, president; Mr. A. C. Bocking, chairman; Mr. W. Eydmann, vice; Mr. C. Simpson, secretary; Mr. J. Brooks, host and treasurer; a general purpose committee of nine were appointed, and a prize committee of five; Messrs. C. J. Dean and W. Eydmann were appointed delegates to the Anglers' Association, newly formed, we hope, for the benefit of all anglers, both in London and the country. Our first competition is to take place on June 24, particulars of which are not yet arranged. On June 25, the first dinner of the coming season will be held at the club house, when the prizes won during the past season will be presented to the successful competitors, and, I hope, a good number given for the season so near at hand. Our total weight for the season past (1883-4) was very small compared with the season before (only amounting to about 300 lb. weight), specimen fish being conspicuous by their absence. To see some of our Ealing friends, as well as some of the Hammersmith United, with their legs under our mahogany, on the 25th inst. is the particular wish of our members and—BLACK BAG.

ANGLERS' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

The usual meeting will take place on Friday evening, June 13th, at 9 o'clock.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

BIRMINGHAM AND MIDLAND PISCATORIAL ASSOCIATION.

It has been arranged that the annual meeting of the members of the association will take place at the Grand Hotel, Colmore Row, on Friday evening, June 13th, at five o'clock. The President of the Association, Oliver Pemberton, Esq., F.R.C.S., will occupy the chair.—JAMES GREGORY, hon. sec.

BRIGHTON ANGLERS' ASSOCIATION.

Now that the opening season is so near at hand, we have arranged several competitions for the year. Our first takes place on Monday, June 16th, when no doubt many members will avail themselves of a day's outing. Our quarterly meeting will be held on the 9th, and several valuable prizes will then be offered.—A. N. DOLTON, hon. sec.

GOOD INTENT ANGLING SOCIETY.

The members of the above club have decided to fish, at Ware, for ten valuable prizes, on the 22nd inst., roach of water, and I trust all members will make themselves eligible to compete, this being our first outing after our long rest; and also that a return visit will be paid to this club on the 9th inst., when I hope to see as many members and friends as can come.—R. MURPHY.

GREAT NORTHERN BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

Our 21st annual supper will take place on Wednesday, June 11th, when we expect over 70 members and friends to attend. Harmony will commence at 10 o'clock, when we trust we shall be favoured with a visit from our numerous brother anglers and friends. Mr. Gibson, of Richmond Grove, Barnsbury, has 12 cases of fish in hand, which he intends finishing by our supper night.—J. FITCH, sec.

GREAT YARMOUTH PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

The catches, on account of the cold winds, did not enable so good a report of the takes as last week. The first at Cantley was the secretary, with good $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. roach. Some fish exhibited by the secretary were greatly admired. The season bids fair to become one of great attraction to anglers visiting Norfolk, and they will meet many friends at the club house on Tuesday evenings. One or two more gentlemen were enrolled, which is very gratifying to all.—J. LARK.

GRESHAM ANGLING SOCIETY.

The ordinary weekly meeting of the above society was held at the Mason's Hall Tavern, Mason's Avenue, Basinghall Street, on Tuesday evening, Captain Alfred (hon. curator) in the chair. The minutes of the last meeting were read and, having been approved as correct, were signed by the chairman. A notice was read from the Central Association that the next delegate meeting would be held at the Star and Garter, St. Martin's Lane, on Friday evening, the 6th inst. A quantity of routine business, principally connected with the annual meeting, was disposed of. The annual meeting will be held on Tuesday evening next, the 10th inst.; Mr. Bates, hon. treasurer, will take the chair. The report and balance sheet will be submitted; the auditors appointed at the previous meeting will bring up their report on the accounts; the election of officers will also take place. During the evening some discussion, in which Messrs. Crumplen, Bentley, and Ghurney took part, arose with reference to the contemplated amalgamation of the three central associations. The chairman (Captain Alfred) and Messrs. Bentley and Crumplen very kindly promised to read papers on early occasions. Mr. Crumplen has one very nearly ready, on "Crayfish," of which due notice will be given. A vote of thanks was accorded to the chairman, and the proceedings brought to a close in the usual manner.—H.

JUNIOR PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

On Tuesday last the fourth annual general meeting and distribution of prizes of the above society took place at the club house. Amongst the numerous prizes is a five-guinea cup, presented by Mr. Palmer, and won by Mr. A. Hewett, for a very fine show of roach from the Thames. A biscuit-box, also presented by Mr. Palmer, was won by Mr. W. Pacy. Mr. Henry Hewett gave five separate guineas for five specimen fish. Two were won by Mr. Arthur Hewett, one by Mr. Hubbard, and two by Mr. Palmer. A copper fish kettle, presented by Mr. Thomas Jenkins, won by Mr. Palmer. A rod, value 25s., won by Mr. Henry Hewett. A crane-shaped, plated water jug, presented by Mr. John Warne, won by Mr. Arthur Hewett. A splendid bait can, presented by Mr. Louis Watson, won by Mr. Joseph Pearce. After numerous other prizes had been presented, a smoking concert was given by the members of this society to their friends, who seemed to thoroughly enjoy themselves, and were only sorry when "time" was called.—A. H. B.

MORTLAKE PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

The usual weekly meeting of the above society was held at the Queen's Head Hotel, Mortlake, on Tuesday evening, June 3rd. The chairman, Mr. J. C.

Barns, presided, and there were a large number of members present. Among the other items, it was resolved upon the purchase of a fishing boat, for the convenience of the members, and which will be ready for their use on the opening day of the season. The chairman, in his remarks, was most happy to state that the prospects of the society were most encouraging, and that the unity existing could only foreshadow that it would rank amongst the leading local societies. It was also announced that a number of prizes would be given to those members who were fortunate enough to obtain the largest size fish of different descriptions. It was not considered advisable to award a prize for gross weight, as in other societies—many members had opportunities which others were deprived of; the limiting to size, it was thought, would be more satisfactory. The meeting closed with the usual vote of thanks to its officers.—M. MORRIS, hon. sec.

ORIGINAL CLERKENWELL PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

The above society continues at the White Hart, Aylesbury Street, Clerkenwell, where all club correspondence will be received. Members are requested to attend on Monday, June 9, to settle important business in connection with this society.—J. OBBARD, sec.

RICHMOND PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

The usual weekly meeting of this society held on Wednesday at the club room, under the chairmanship of Mr. A. J. Little, was largely attended, Mr. Dickinson being the vice-chairman. Two new members were elected. It was arranged to hold the annual summer dinner, by special arrangement with the proprietor, at the Mitre Hotel, Hampton Court, on Wednesday, July 2nd. The chairman pointed out the suitability of the locality, as Hampton Court Station is very handy for London visitors, and Teddington Station not far; for those fond of a moonlight row home to Richmond the river was available, and in addition Mr. W. Cockburn had offered to lend an omnibus. The chairman announced that the committee had decided that the fishing competition in the river Thames, to be held on the same day, should be for the largest number of fish over a certain weight, and not for the greatest or gross weight. He said that by this arrangement the better sized fish only were retained, and that the dace or roach fishermen would have as much chance of winning the prize as the angler who succeeded in catching heavy barbel or pike. One rod only was to be allowed, and Messrs. Brougham and Dickinson were appointed referees. The value of the first prize will be a guinea and a half, and the second a guinea presented by the society. The suggestion of the committee was carried unanimously, and in the course of the discussion it was submitted that some such test as the following would be suitable considering the earliness in the season when fish are not so easily caught. Dace, 6 oz.; perch 1 lb.; barbel, 3 lb.; trout, 4 lb.; carp, 3 lb.; roach, 9 oz.; chub, 2 lb.; jack, 5 lb.; bream, 3 lb.; gudgeon, 1½ oz.; but the weight will be finally determined by the committee. Mr. W. H. Brougham referred to the recent efforts of the Thames Angling Preservation Society with regard to the roach spawn at Eel Pie Island, and said he was fairly astonished at the large amount of very small fry to be now seen in the neighbourhood. He thought that the competition would be watched with great interest, and hoped that other societies would follow the example of discarding gross weights, and only retain fish of a substantial size. Mr. E. H. Smith presented a handsome prize for barbel fishing.

SOCIABLE BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

The fifth annual dinner of the above club was held in the club-room on Wednesday, May 21st, when a fair muster of members and a few friends did ample justice to an excellent repast which was placed on the table by our treasurer and late president, Messrs. Monk and Lockyear, in their usual liberal manner, and for which they received a hearty vote of thanks. The president, Mr. Irons, carried out the duties of the chair most ably, assisted by the vice-president, Mr. John Flynn. After the first toast, "The Queen," the chairman gave "The Social Brothers' Angling Club," which was responded to by Mr. Pavey, our late secretary, who in a few words spoke of the success which had attended the club since its formation, and which he hoped it would continue to have, at the same time wishing his successor might receive the same support from the members that he had himself received. Mr. Bird gave "The President and Vice-President," responded to by the chairman, who said he should only be pleased, as they had elected him to fill the office of president, to do all in his power to further the interest of the club. Mr. John gave the next toast, "Committee and Officers," in a few words complimenting them on the very able manner they had carried out their duties. Mr. Goubot, in reply, said that as he had only just taken the post of secretary he would say very little then, but he would give them a full report next year. Mr. Pavey gave "Honorary Members and Visitors," to which Mr. Palmer replied. The chairman next read over the list of prizes and winners, which were presented on the following Monday evening, with the exception of the first gross weight prize, a very handsome timepiece, won by Mr. Lee. On presenting it the chairman hoped Mr. Lee might live many years to tell the time by it. The names of the winners were then called out:—Mr. Lee, first, gross weight; Mr. Monk, second, do.; Mr. Bromhead, third. The other winners were Messrs. Goubot, Valler, jun., Bird, Lockyear, Pavey, and Freeman. Several prizes were given for the ensuing year. Mr. Lockyear proposed "The Ladies," Mr. James Flynn replying. Mr. Brocklehurst gave "The Press," which was acknowledged by Mr. Bates, of *Land and Water*. Several songs were sung during the course of the evening, Mr. Field presiding at the piano. Time being called, we made the best of our way home, all highly pleased at having spent so enjoyable an evening.—J. GOUBOT, sec.

SOUTH LONDON ANGLING SOCIETY.

The fourteenth annual dinner of this well-known club was held in their club room, George and Dragon, 235, Camberwell Road, on Thursday, 29th May, when a large number sat down to an excellent supper provided by our treasurer and landlord, Mr. Morris, and to which all present did ample justice. Subsequently the chair was taken by Mr. Buck, and the vice-chair by Mr. Field. After the removal of the cloth, and the usual loyal and patriotic toasts, the vice-chairman proposed "Success to the West Central Association" in a neat speech, and quite to the purpose, in which he referred to the desirability of amalgamating the three associations into one. The next toast "The Secretary," was proposed by Mr. Buck in a eulogistic speech, in which he spoke in marked terms of praise of the way in which he had conducted his duties during the past year. The Secretary, in reply, thanked the chairman for the kind way in which he had spoken of him, and also to the members for the kind and emphatic way in which they received the toast. The secretary further stated that he was pleased to belong to so excellent a society—a society that was respected and esteemed by the angling fraternity in general. He then referred to the prize list for the past season, which contained no fewer than fifty-three prizes of

a value of over £26, a result which was exceeding satisfactory. The numerical strength of the society remained about the same, but the real strength of the society lay in the mutual confidence of its members. The numerous "together" outings arranged for prizes was thought a great improvement to the old style of "go where you please," and will be continued in the coming season. Prizes for specimen fish will also, it is hoped, bear a prominent part in the new list. The secretary further stated that their valued member, Mr. Field, added to his many other duties, had again been elected president of the South London United Visiting List. This list is arranging for a grand match to take place at Staines, on the 29th June, for a series of valuable prizes. The financial position of the society is safe and sound, for after paying all prizes and dinner, there will still be left in the hands of our treasurer somewhere over £6. The secretary concluded by thanking the society for their appreciation of his services, and promised to do his best for the interests of the club during the coming season. The Chairman next proposed "Success to the South London Angling Society," in which he brought before the meeting the old standing of the society as an evidence of its respectability and strength. The last toast of the evening was "Mr. and Mrs. Morris," proposed by the chairman, in a well-meant, complimentary speech, to which Mr. Morris responded on behalf of himself and Mrs. Morris. In connection with the Fisheries' Exhibition of last year, it is a matter for sincere congratulation that we were the only club this side of the Thames to whom a bronze medal was presented for their exhibits. After the speeches, followed the distribution of prizes, some 53 in number, and to each recipient the chairman had a kind word to say of encouragement. The chairman succeeded in inducing every one present to give a prize for the new list, our treasurer heading the list with £3 3s. as before. Harmony succeeded business; and the following gentlemen contributed their utmost with songs and recitations, both grave and gay, to the evening's enjoyment: Messrs. Buck, Head, Morris, Sergeant, Mitchell, Bate, Tessier, Brown, Buckham, and others. After this had been gone through, to the pleasure and delight of all, the meeting was brought to a close in the early hours of the morning.—J. KIRWAN.

THE PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

It is now nearly, or quite, a year since the book of prizes for the year 1883 was issued, and the new book containing the list of prizes for 1884 will be shortly ready. From what I have heard the list of this season will be up to, perhaps exceed, that of last, which was an exceedingly good one. Our new treasurer, Mr. Fennings, has entered heart and soul into the work, with the result that our prize finances are in first-rate order. Our members have lately been doing well with the Thames trout, notably Mr. Wheeldon, who last week, as duly announced in the *Fishing Gazette* and other journals, captured two beauties, the largest weighing 10 lb. He has, indeed, been very successful in this kind of the gentle art this season. Mr. Huggett captured one about 2 lb. at Sonning, and duly returned it to the river. Our weekly meetings at Ashley's Hotel have latterly been more than usually well attended, but the supply of fish scarce. Trout, carp, and tench are the only fish permitted to be shown upon our tables, and these must be of a size worthy of the attention of all true anglers. Most of our members are out for the Whitsun recess, and an interesting meeting is expected on Monday next.—T. H.

WEST GREEN ANGLING SOCIETY.

The first annual meeting of the above society was held on May 21st. Mr. Elder, the vice-president, occupied the chair, when the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Mr. E. Mansfield and Mr. E. T. Elder were re-elected president and vice-president respectively; Mr. R. Hawkins, F. Lioni, C. Wilsner, J. Golding, J. Haddon, J. Lioni, T. Dudley, and J. Miller, committeemen; Mr. Golding, Mr. Miller, auditors; Mr. Golding and C. Coleman, delegates; Mr. Guyver and Mr. Coleman, re-elected secretary and treasurer. The annual dinner was fixed for July 7th at the Pied Bull, St. Margaret's. Mr. P. Payne, Coleman, and Guyver were elected to serve as stewards.—J. GUYVER, sec.

UNITED LONDON ANGLERS.

The usual monthly meeting will take place on Monday evening next, June 9th, to receive the auditors' report, and pass the balance sheet; also to elect a trustee to the Anglers' Association. Chair to be taken at 9 o'clock.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

UNITED LONDON FISHERIES SOCIETY.

I am pleased to state that we have a large quantity of very healthy perch fry in our hatching boxes at St. Margaret's and Waltham Abbey. Mr. Medcalf brought a sample on the 1st inst., and they were shown at the Bald-faced Stag, Worship Square, Finsbury. Mr. M. has them still alive in his possession.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

THE ANGLERS' ASSOCIATION.

COPY OF CIRCULAR.

"The Foresters' Hall, Clerkenwell Road, E.C.

"June 7th, 1884.

"DEAR SIR,—I have much pleasure in informing you that The First General Meeting of the Amalgamated Associations (The Anglers' Association) will be held at the above hall on Monday, June 16th, to confirm the resolutions passed at the recent meetings of the Associations, and to instruct the General Purposes Committee to prepare a code of Rules on the basis of the agreement arrived at between the Associations.

"Your two Delegates who have hitherto represented you will be eligible to do so at this meeting. Chair taken at 9 o'clock.

"Yours faithfully,
"10, Baches Street, Hoxton."

"R. GHURNEY, sec."

COPY OF CIRCULAR TO SECRETARIES.

"The Anglers' Association,

"The Foresters' Hall,

"Clerkenwell Road, E.C.

"June 6th, 1884.

"DEAR SIR,—The amalgamation of the associations necessitates a new ticket, which had to be submitted to and accepted by the various railway companies which grant us a reduction from the ordinary fares. I am pleased to inform you that this has been done, and that on receipt of a list of the names and addresses of your members, I will, with as little delay as possible, forward you their tickets, which will come into operation on the 16th inst.

"Mr. Tibbatts has kindly handed me the lists which he has received, so it will not be necessary to send me a second list of such names.—Yours faithfully,
"R. GHURNEY, secretary.

"10, Baches Street, Charles Square, Hoxton."

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MANUFACTURERS OF FIRST-CLASS RODS AND TACKLE,
SALMON AND TROUT FLIES, SUITABLE FOR
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Mahseer Tackle in Great Variety.
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(Very Light).
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(Can be regulated to any stiffness at will).
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PRACTICAL ANGLER, FLY DRESSER, AND MANUFACTURER
OF EVERY DESCRIPTION OF FISHING TACKLE.

James Ogden's Newly-Invented Premier Spinner,
Regd Nov. 13th 1883. This Bait is constructed upon an entire'y new and
improved principle. Salmon 6s. 6d.; Trout, 5s.; smaller do, 3s. 6d.
SILVER OR GILT.
Also Coloured, similar to the Devon Bait's, &c.
JAMES OGDEN'S
Multum in Parvo Fly Rods,
PRICE 21s.,

The enormous and increasing demand for which is a sufficient guarantee for the high
estimation in which they are held by the leading anglers of the day.
All Standard Flies ordered, or dressed correct to pattern, will be despatched by return of
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[This Advertisement has been temporarily withdrawn owing to overpressure of
Whitsun business.]

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from the present date till 15th July.
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extending to about 2 miles of as good Salmon, Grilse, and Sea Trout Water as at this
season is to be found in that locality. Excellent and convenient Hotel accommodation
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To the Queen.

Table Waters

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RIVER REPORTS.

TIME OF HIGH WATER IN THE THAMES.
To find the time of high water in the Thames at any of the following places,
to the time of high water at London Bridge (given below).

	30 minutes for Chelsea.
40	" Putney.
45	" Hammersmith.
50	" Barnes.
55	" Kew.
75	" Richmond.
80	" Twickenham.
85	" Teddington.

Example:—If it is high water at 2 o'clock at London Bridge, it will be high
water at Teddington about 3.25, or eighty-five minutes later; but it must be
remembered that a strong wind accelerates or retards the tide very much.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.

	Morning.	Afternoon.
For Saturday, June 7 ..	12 55	1 16
Sunday .. 8 ..	1 37	1 55
Monday .. 9 ..	2 12	2 29
Tuesday .. 10 ..	2 46	3 4
Wednesday, .. 11 ..	3 20	3 38
Thursday, .. 12 ..	3 56	4 14
Friday, .. 13 ..	4 31	4 50

THE LOWER THAMES.

The amount of traffic on the river during the Whitsuntide holidays was,
naturally, a great interruption to the angling for trout, but the anglers tried to
make the best of it at the end of last week. The success of Mr. J. P. Wheeldon,
in capturing two good fish and losing a monster, no doubt acted as a stimulus
to others, as, in the same district, the following results were achieved by other
anglers before the expiration of the month of May, or, in other words, on the
Friday and Saturday following:—Mr. Knechtli, fishing with Thomas Wheeler,
got a nice fish of 6 lb.; Mr. F. H. Rolers, one of 5 lb.; Mr. Woods, fishing

with T. Wheeler, a small fish, which he put back again; Mr. F. H. Roberts, fishing with Thomas Millbourne, in addition to the previous one of 5 lb., got another of 4 lb., and a gentleman, fishing with William Millbourne, caught one of 5 lb. All these fish were weighed in at Mr. Mayo's, the Castle Hotel, East Moulsey, and are described as very handsome. At Sunbury, on Saturday last, Mr. Edward Lukyn got another fish of 4 lb., and one of the bank anglers at Walton took one of 4½ lb. The inclusive return of fish killed for the week ending on the 31st of May would appear to represent a total of sixteen trout, weighing 88½ lb., or an average of 5½ lb. to each fish. Such a result must, indeed, evidence the fact so often repeated this season, that the portion of river under the protection of the Thames Angling Preservation Society is full of trout. A considerable number of bank anglers were out on Whit Monday, under the impression that the general angling season commenced on the first of June. On being told to the contrary by the river keepers, they immediately packed up, and went away thankfully.

UPPER THAMES.

The river is still in prime fettle for trout work, and is still being hourly improved by the rain which for hours has been falling. I hear from some seven stations of fish being had, but the captors seem very reticent about their names being in print. At Maidenhead two fish under 5 lb. have been had during the week, and Mr. Deacon, of the Ray Mead Hotel, informs me that Boulders Weir contains more than one 10-pounder. At Hurley Messrs. Collett and Cartwright have for days—morning, noon, and night—been toiling and spinning, and not, I am pleased to say, without some reward, as Mr. C. has caught a pretty fish of 3½ lb., and had several touches, and Mr. Cartwright has had fun with jack and perch (carefully, to my knowledge, returned), and unfortunately lost a trout of about 5 lb. after holding the same for three or four minutes, and only losing the same through a determined and successful effort of the fish to shoot the weir. Hambledon waters are reported to me as containing some pretty fellows of from 5 to 10 lb., and ditto about Sonning. How is it anglers do not attempt to be more successful? Weather hazy; wind west; river in good order at the weir.—MARLOW BUZZ.

Datchet.

The trout were well sought after in this neighbourhood during the holidays; but the dry weather has been all against success for some time. I have only seen one trout chase a bait in the open water for a month, come the 7th, the worst record I ever remember for May. On the 1st, Mr. Woodall, with J. Gray, at Old Windsor Weir, caught a nice little fish 3 lb. On the 2nd, three fish were broken away from the weir. I have just heard of one being taken near the Bells of Ousley on the 4th, 13½ lb., but not able to learn who the lucky captor was. A lady trailing near here on the 31st, with artificial bait, caught a little beauty 2½ lb. Water very low.—G. LUMSDEN.

Ancholme District.

Monday being Bank Holiday, quite a contingent of youthful anglers visited the river-head, and I am glad to say all had good sport. One gentleman caught four small pike, twenty-five perch, and six eels—these were all taken in the afternoon. Mr. Button had two nice pike and some perch. Mr. Dixon caught between twenty and thirty. Mr. Dent had a similar number. Several others had runs with pike. Messrs. Dixon, Page, Smith, and Henson also landed goodly numbers. There are plenty of fish, but the place is greatly encumbered with weeds. The wind changed to south on Sunday and Monday, but to-day it has gone back into the east, and the rain which those Americans promised us has again failed to come. The ground is very parched, and the watercourses still at the lowest, hence trout-fishing is at a discount. I saw a good number of green and grey drakes on Monday, and, so long as these are about, should advise no other fly. Coarse fish are quite over spawning, and are getting into good condition.—THOMAS FORD, Caistor.

Ballynahinch.

Since last Wednesday (May 21) waters are falling very quickly, and peal are not running in great numbers as yet. On the 20th ult., Mr. G. Sutherland, one peal, 5½ lb., and on the 21st one salmon, 14 lb. On the 22nd ult., Mr. Wm. Sutherland, one, 13 lb.; and on the 23rd, one, 12 lb. On Monday (26th ult.), Mr. G. Sutherland caught about 10 lb. weight of brown trout. Bright sunshine and east wind mostly all the week. Glass steady, with strong heat.—WALTER BLACKADDER.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

Since last Wednesday the weather has been rather unfavourable for angling, still, on the 29th ult., Mr. G. Sutherland got one salmon, 11½ lb.; and on the 2nd inst., two, 11½ and 15 lb. Same date, Mr. R. McCreedy, sen., two, 10½ and 14 lb.; and on the 3rd inst., Mr. G. Sutherland, two peal, which seem later this season than formerly.—WALTER BLACKADDER.

Blackwater (Mallow).

Dr. Wake, during past week, killed five; Ringrose Smyth, fifteen; Ludlow Payne, one, 15 lb.; H. C. Phillips, three; Major Brown, two; Hamilton Stubber, six for past week; J. Carpenter, one, 19 lb.; J. Oylott, one, 9 lb.; P. Hunt, two, 14 and 16 lb.; J. Lane, two, 12 and 13 lb.; P. Lane, one, 9 lb.; A. Brocklehurst, for past week, twenty-four on the Corporation Water; C. W. Clifford, two, 15 and 16 lb.; Michael Sheehan, one, 14 lb.; C. H. Fenwick, one salmon, 9 lb., one peal, 3½ lb.; W. W. Beecher, one, 16½ lb.; W. Gallwey, seven for past week, one, 21½ lb.; Captain Diaby (at Kilbarry), four, each 8, 16, and 17 lb.; one peal, 4 lb.; one ditto, 18 lb.; three, each 10, 12, and 16 lb.; one, 18 lb.; A. Benn, two, 11 and 12 lb.; Hamilton Stubber, one, 31½ lb.; H. W. Peel, ten for past week; Mr. Oraster, one, 35 lb.; A. Benn, one salmon and one peal; Mr. Craster, two, each 25 and 35 lb.—J. SEPH O. HAROLD.

Bure (Norwich)

During the holidays Wroxham has been besieged with the brethren of the gentle art; but notwithstanding a very fine day and favourable wind, on Monday last, I found a party of enthusiasts (?) assembled in the Horseshoes, devoting themselves to harmony and song, which plainly proved, to my mind, that the sport must have been very poor; because fresh air, and the quiet of the moored boat, with the wind whistling through the trees, must at any time be preferable to a close tap-room, with any amount of smoke and noise, not to mention those who are not mindful of where use ends and abuse begins. On Tuesday morning the wind changed from the south into the south-east and east, consequently the pleasure was reduced both above and below water, the wind being uncomfortably strong, and the sport miserably slow. A party of anglers fished a match on Woodbastwick Broad, but from their shyness to give

any account of their takes, I fancy it proved a very unlucky day. A friend and myself tried very hard to tempt the fish, but with very poor success. One of the enjoyments of the day was to witness the return of the yachts to their station at Wroxham, after an enjoyable time at Oulton Regatta, which was, I am told, a thorough success on Monday. I cannot boast of the prospects. Perhaps after the rain which we have been praying for in vain (while the wind keeps east and north) we shall improve on this stream.—ROBERT MOLL.

Coquet (Weldon Bridge).

Good baskets of trout got last week; sorry I neglected the report. I have only been here since the 12th of May, and having the masons, joiners, &c., at work all that time, you will know the state of affairs. They are making great improvements here; it will be a nice place when finished. In about another fortnight I could take nine or ten visitors. Mr. Riddell's waters are still open by the payment of 5s. for season. May 31st, Mr. Barker, 1½ dozen; Mr. Matthews, 1½ dozen, good. Other baskets which I did not see. Monday last: Mr. A. Bainbridge, three dozen; Mr. W. J. Mathieson, two dozen; Mr. E. N. Vardy, two dozen. Other fair baskets, considering the fineness of the river. Good baskets will be caught after rain; the fishers say there are plenty of fish.—FREDERICK BROWN.

[Mr. Brown is the new landlord of the Anglers' Arms, Weldon Bridge, about eight miles from Morpeth, and capital headquarters for fishing the celebrated Coquet from.—ED.]

Dee and Don (Aberdeenshire).

Both these rivers are affording comparatively little sport at present. There is far too little water, and far too few fish in either, except in the higher reaches of the former. A good many grise ascended about a fortnight ago, and pretty good sport among them has been got in the Braemar district, from 60 to 65 miles up the Dee. The killing flies seem to be darkish, in general; but the blue fly, dusty miller, Jock Scott, and silver doctor (all small, nearly trout size) have been answering pretty well. The angler and agriculturist alike are crying out for rain. From the present time till about the 20th of July is always the best season for grilse and sea trout. With a rise of water, the grilse would take to the fresh water in great numbers. From the fact that they are plentiful along the coast, we expect a good grilse time this year. Sea trout are large, averaging fully 2 lb.; scarcely any less. In the Kincardine O'Neil and Aboyne districts, angling for grilse and sea trout in June and July is generally attended with great success. We notice that the Messrs. Blacklaws, of Kincardine O'Neil, to whom we have been indebted for many reports, are advertising the Carlogie private water, a beautiful streamy reach of two miles, with excellent hotel accommodation contiguous. On the Don, good baskets of trout are being got about Parkhill and Fintray. Mr. Muirhead Aitken is daily having excellent sport at Parkhill. The trout are taking best in the evening, with the natural minnow. Large ones, from 2 to 3 lb. each, are not uncommon. We have learned that great quantities of smelt are being destroyed in the neighbourhood of Muggiemoss; but definite particulars are not yet to hand. We hope next week to be able to report a change for the better—a change which only rain can bring about, as the snow has almost completely disappeared from the hills. If we had only some rain, the searchingly-bright weather and frosty nights, so detrimental to successful angling, might disappear. We require, at least, a foot of water extra, surface level, to ensure anything like good sport—such sport as is usually got at this season of the year. River reports appended for past week:—Crathes—George Bremner, fisherman, Monday, one fish 3 lb.; Friday, one sea trout, 2½ lb.; Wright, keeper, Inver, Thursday, one grilse, 3 lb. Cairnton—D. Rae, Wednesday, two fish, 7 and 9 lb. Braemar; Invercauld Arms Hotel water—Rev. C. J. Steward, Monday, one grilse, 4 lb.; Thursday, one grilse, 6½ lb. Woodend—C. Gill, Tuesday (this week), one salmon. Kincardine O'Neil—Mr. Mortimer, one sea trout, 3½ lb. Wakersdam—J. B. Keith, Esq., a few nice lake trout.—Crathes, Wednesday (this week), C. Wollaston, Esq., 1 fish, 11½ lb. Tuesday, Woodend—W. F. Watson, Esq., one fish, 14 lb. Aboyne District (last week), Aboyne Castle Water—Mr. Nicolls, Monday, one salmon, 10 lb.; Tuesday, one salmon, 6 lb.; Wednesday, two salmon, 7 and 9 lb. On the Huntley Lodge Water—two salmon, 7 and 9 lb., were landed during the week. On the Glentanar Water on Monday Mr. Book's party had six salmon, 8 to 16 lb.; Tuesday, 9 salmon, 5 to 13 lb.; Wednesday, six salmon, 5 to 10 lb.; Thursday, three salmon, 6 to 20 lb.; Friday, seven salmon, 7 to 20 lb.; Saturday, two salmon, 7 and 9 lb. Report of Mr. Geo. Smith, saddler and tackle maker, Ballater, Invercauld Arms Hotel Water, Ballater—W. Coupland, Esq., Monday, one fish, 8 lb.; Tuesday, three fish, 8, 10, and 13 lb.; Thursday, one fish, 9 lb.; Friday, three fish, 9, 10, and 11 lb.; Saturday, four fish, 7, 9, 9, and 10 lb. Captain Smith, Wednesday, one fish 7½ lb.; Friday, one fish, 16 lb.; Saturday, one fish, 8 lb. 28th, Lieutenant Gordon, in Cambus o' May Water, one fish, 8½ lb. 30th, on the Paunianinch Water—Captain Napier, one fish, 6 lb.; Lieutenant Irvine, one fish, 8 lb. Monaltrie—27th, Colonel Keen, one fish, 16 lb. Cambus o' May—Fred. Pickop, Esq., Tuesday week, two fish, 10 and 13½ lb. Monaltrie—Thursday, two fish, 7 and 7½ lb. The Jock Scott, magic, Jeannie, March brown, and professor, or brazed irons about half an inch, are doing well about Ballater. These Mr. Smith reports to be the best killing flies at present.—W. M.

Dove.

We have had a large number of rodsters out, owing to the holidays, more than I ever remember before. The weather has been splendid, the sun shining out all day with real summer splendour. The water continues as low and fine as gin, and the fish have been very chary of either the fly, worm, or maggot. The best dish I hear of is one secured in the Okeover Water of six brace. The general average, however, has not been more than three brace. The May-fly is just on, but it won't be in full force until the end of next week. We want rain badly. I never recollect seeing the river so low before at this time of the year. The universal and Derby killers are proving the best of the spinning baits, particularly in the tributaries. The opening of the season for coarse fish is close at hand, and I hope we shall have a good rise of water before the 15th June.—THE SPLODGER.

Eden (Carlisle).

The river is now very low, and in fine order for creeper and stone-fly by day, and fly and bustard by night. Mr. George Potter killed thirty good trout in the Association water one day last week, and Archdeacon Prescott and Canon Richmond had one or two good days in the Dean and Chapter water. Colonel Sharp has also had some good takes at little Salkeld, and Mr. Slater killed 9 lbs. on Saturday afternoon, and was broken by a salmon. I am told that it is a perfect sight to see the trout rising in the Corby water in the evenings, and can quite believe it, for there is very little of it that can be poached at night, and though the present proprietor is very liberal in giving leave to his friends, legitimate rod fishing never does much harm. The

Annual Handicap Competition of the Carlisle Angling Association is fixed for Tuesday, June 17th. It is a 5s. Sweepstakes, and is open to all members of the Association.—SILVER GREY.

Exe (Tiverton).

The river continues very low, with little or nothing doing except in the evening at dusk. A few fish have then been taken with red spinner, May dun, and hawthorn. Rain has fallen—not enough to make any difference to the stream.—WM. MUDFORD.

Greeta (Ingletton).

Week after week have I delayed sending you a report, in the hope that I should ere this have had something worthy to record; but my hopes so far have been frustrated. The season so far has been the worst known for anglers, as comparatively few trout have been taken with the rod, and there is a general complaint of the scarcity of fish in the river; nor is it to be wondered at, seeing that the netting fraternity have carried on their nefarious practices year after year, which undoubtedly means wholesale destruction. I consider it is high time that the association went in for fish culture, seeing that they started the season with a balance of some £25, and do not know how to utilise it, or it would be a very simple matter to introduce a quantity of young trout into the river each year, which would be a sure means of keeping the river stocked, and not very expensive. At the time of writing there is every appearance of a change, which is much needed, not for anglers alone, but for the country.—INLEBORO.

Holmrook (Carnforth).

Lake fishing at Watwast has never been better. I myself have been to the lake and have never killed less than three and a half up to five dozen of nice trout. I have also been with several parties, who have done remarkably well. Mr. Graham, a near neighbour, and myself, the other day, killed four dozen each of really nice trout. Best flies are dark red and black hackles and dark duns. Any grouse or woodcock feather kill well. The best river fishing is just now coming on for salmon, trout, and smelts. The latter part of June, but really about the middle of July, is a good time for sea fish here; September and October for salmon.—A. BROCKLEBANK.

Ilfacombe.

Sea Fishing.—Some small strings of codling, whiting, and pollock are caught daily by parties fishing from the boats with ground lines, and some fine soles, cod, and plaice, are brought up from the bay by the trawling skiffs. On Thursday evening, two gentlemen fishing from the pier head, hooked a fine cod and ling, weighing about 20lb. each, and when about to land them they slipped their hold, much to the annoyance of the sportsmen, and disappeared. The rocks are dotted about of an evening with rod and hand line fishers, who find the sport good for small trout and pollock, as they are plentiful along shore. On Monday evening, a gentleman fishing from the jetty, caught a cod 14lb., and a ling 16lb. Several lobsters and crabs have been caught this week. Weather at present fine.—E. COMER.

Lakes of Killarney.

Since the last report there has been a great deal of north-east wind and bright weather. The trout-fishing was much better than the salmon; only a few were taken. The peal are plentiful now on the lower lake. D. F. Mulligan got one peal of 5lb. on a trout fly; Tim Courneane, one, 6lb., on a trout fly; Tom Ellet got two peal, one on each rod, while trolling for salmon, one 4½ and one 4lb.; John Robert, two peal; Tim McCarthy, two peal and one salmon, 13lb.; Capt. Blyth, twenty-five trout; Mr. John C. Coltsman, thirty-three trout; Mr. J. D. Curtayne, one brown trout, 5lb.; Capt. Fox, thirty-eight trout; Mr. Walmsley, thirty-eight trout; Daniel Twomey, thirty-two trout; Tim McCarthy, thirty-six trout; Michael Doona, twenty-two trout; Thade Shine, twenty-four trout. A few more peal were met with trout flies, and were lost. The green drake are coming on the water, and the trout are feeding on them freely. The taking trout flies are hare's ear and olive hackle, green and yellow grouse, March brown, coch-y-bondhu, and also the alder, claret and blue hackle, orange and blue hackle, and green olive with black hackle and hare's wing.—TIM MCCARTHY.

Lugg and Arrow.

The anglers of this district could not wish for better weather for angling than has been had the last two or three weeks. These streams are in good condition for fishing, being clear, but are now getting very low, and in great want of rain. The fish in both streams are rising well at the fly, and several very good lots of trout have been landed. The best killing flies at present are the cadow, down hill, orle and yellow dun; the fish at present are biting best at the cadow, which fly is on the water in good numbers. On Friday the fish in the Arrow were sporting well, and one gent landed a very nice lot of trout with the cadow. In the Lugg a very nice lot of fish were taken the same day with the fly. Saturday being fine, the Arrow was tried with the down hill and orle, and some very nice trout were taken averaging 1½lb. each. A few nice trout were taken in the Lugg with the fly. On Monday a very nice lot of trout were taken in the Arrow with the cadow. The Lugg was tried by an old angler on Tuesday, who landed a very nice lot of fish with the cadow. In the Barsland waters some very fine fish have been landed with the fly. Little doing in the Monkland waters. A few nice trout have been taken in the Ivington waters. Some very nice trout have been taken in the Shobden waters this week. The Pinsley is still in good fishing order but low; the fish are sporting well at the fly, and some very good fish have been taken.—GWYNNE.

Moy and Lough Conn (Ballina).

Angling on river and lough is nothing to boast of, owing to the weather—bright sunshine and north east wind, fish not rising well to fly. Notwithstanding some few salmon have been killed at early morning, and late in evening. A change in weather is sure to bring good sport, as the grilse are running in strong numbers.—FRANK HEARNS.

Ouse (Huntingdon).

The time is drawing near for the anglers to recommence the fine sport of fishing. During the fence time, and up to the present, the water has been in most splendid condition for the fish to spawn, and I firmly believe the coming season will be as good as we have had for some years. The last six or eight weeks I have seen more fish and larger than I have seen for years. Roach and chub most plentiful. I have seen chub, I believe, to weigh from 3lb. to 6lb. each, and, if a good artificial fly is used, some may be taken, if the weather is bright. Red worms or gentles may be used for the fine roach. I hope to see some of the London anglers on this river the coming season, and patronise me, for I have a great faith in some sport, weather permitting.—H. ROVE.

Severn (Shrewsbury).

Several good baskets of fish have been taken during the Whitsuntide holidays, although the condition of the river has not been favourable to angling, being very low and clear. Mr. McLeod, fishing on the Monkmoor Ford, caught two very nice trout. On Thursday last myself and two friends had a good day's sport. My basket consisted of twelve very good trout and a dozen rough ones. My friends had respectively five trout, and three trout, besides rough ones. Mr. John Convey has, during the week, received four fine salmon, weighing respectively, 35, 21, 15, and 10 lb. A prosecution of an important character took place here this week, and was the first of its kind. The summons was for taking eels in the close season, viz., between Jan. 1st and June 24th. The defendant was fined five shillings and costs; notice of appeal was given. The first outing of the Shrewsbury Severn Angling Society this season takes place on Wednesday, when the party intend to visit Llanymynech.—SEVERN SALMON.

Severn and Teme (Worcester).

These rivers are in excellent condition for fly fishing, also the brooks, but it takes great care how the angler nears his intended victim, for the trout are as keen-eyed as the hawk, and you can see them dart to the stubs, to the disappointment of the uncautious fisher. I will give to the young angler a few wrinkles how to angle for trout in fine low water at this bright season. The first, always get on the side of the stream that the sun will throw your shadow from the water; the next do not approach the stream from a high bank. Let your tackle be fine, but strong, so that you may hold your fish from the roots and banks. The sport has been good the last few days, and this day it is the essence of fishing weather; wind in the south after a good storm, and a few of our local anglers are now bent upon slaughter. These few takes came under my notice: W. Prosser, 5 lb. trout, A. George, 2½ brace, Mr. Mays caught a few trout, best fish 2½ lb., myself filling with the fly 6 brace on Monday, on Tuesday, 4 brace, best brace 1 lb. 7 oz. Grayling are upon the ford; a few have been returned.—JOHN A. GRIFFIN.

Teme (Ludlow).

The waters round about this district have undergone no material change since last week. On Whit Tuesday which is held as a Bank holiday in lieu of Monday, the various streams were well patronised by anglers, most of them being amateurs; but many of them complained that they met with limited success (probably for want of a little more patience, and more experience in throwing the fly). At the latter end of last week Mr. Dan Crundell, of High Street, with his son, was fishing in the Teme at Steventon, when a splendid trout was hooked, and with difficulty landed; it was caught with the cadow, and turned the scale at 2lb. One of the sportsman managed to slip into the river, bringing the evening's sport to an abrupt termination. Up the Oakley Park waters some very fine fish have been landed with the orle and cadow, eighteen by one gentleman, and fourteen by another. On Friday a gent up the Corve caught seventeen nice fish with the orle, weighing altogether about 10 lb. On Wednesday, a veteran fisherman from the bottom of Corve Street, landed twenty splendid trout in Lord Windsor's waters, principally with the down-hill fly. We have heard of some good fish being landed from the Letwyche with the black caterpillar. The best flies in use about here are the cadow, orle, down-hill, and yellow dun; these and all "fancy" kinds of fly can be had from the maker, my old friend, T. Hodges, of Raven Street, who will afford all information in the "gentle art." as "where to fish" and "what to fish with," and "what for." We saw Mr. W. Morris with a splendid trout on Tuesday evening, being one of several landed by him in Oakley Park waters. There has been nothing doing up the Trippleton waters, the members of the club not having come to the front yet. There have been one or two days good angling up the Clun.—S. LUDLOW.

Teme (Tenbury).

There is but little alteration in this state of this water since last week, it still remaining very clear, and now getting very low. The fish are sporting well at the fly, and the cadow being on the water in good numbers, they have sported better this week than they have for some time, and several very fine fish have been taken. The best killing flies at present are the cadow, down-hill and orle. In the water below the bridge on Friday, a gentleman with the cadow landed some very fine trout, some scaling over 1 lb. each. On Saturday the water was tied with the fly, and some very fine fish were taken averaging 1½lb. each. Monday being Bank Holiday, there was a good few visitors in this district and several nice lots of trout were landed with the cadow and orle. A gent tried the water near Little Hereford on Tuesday, and landed a splendid basket of fine trout with the cadow. On Wednesday morning a gent visited the water with the fly, but had very poor sport, only taking a few small fish; the wind blowing from the east, the fish would not bite. The Kyre and Rea are both in good fishing condition, but low; the fish are sporting well at the fly, and some fair-sized fish have been landed. On Saturday some very fine trout were taken in the Kyre with the cadow, and a few nice ones on Tuesday. In the Rea a very nice lot of fish were taken on Tuesday with the fly. The Ledwyche was visited this week, and some nice trout were landed with the fly.—WORCESTER.

The Test.

Hardly any May fly on yet on the upper water of Test. River very low, but rising after last night's rain. Wind at last changed to south-west. Fish rise well in the evening at small fly—red quill gnat for choice. Next week fishing ought to improve. Some fine fish have been killed on the Kimbridge water, where the May fly has been up for the last fortnight.—HAMPSHIRE.

Torridge (Torrington).

The river continues very low, and the showers which have fallen continually this week have not been enough to alter the water. The otter hounds are on the Torridge this week, but very little sport near Torrington; they are gone a long way up. The net-fishermen at the estuaries of the rivers Taw and Torridge are getting hundreds of salmon, wholesale price, 1s. 4d. per lb. Mr. Norton took eleven trout with the fly last evening, 3½ lb., in the free water. A gentleman of Somerset, writing to a Torrington fisherman, says, "Last year I killed over a hundredweight of trout, namely, 229 lb. weight, on your two flies; and, besides, found them very killing in North Wales after rain." Weather showery.—PRACTICAL ANGLER.

Trent (Nottingham).

There is little news to communicate this week, and until rain falls and makes its welcome presence felt, salmon anglers cannot hope to meet with much success. Many months have elapsed since I saw the river so clear and fine as it is at the present time, and what is worse, the rapid growth of "flannel" weed is not likely to improve the general outlook. I learn that Mr. H. Benson, of

this town, has caught a very nice salmon in the King's Mills length; and that Mr. Lowater has secured two in the Holme Pierrepont length. Numbers of salmon anglers have patronised the Shardlow and Weston allotments during the holidays, but they all complain of a want of change of water. Whilst spinning for salmon at Willington, Mr. S. Sils (Nottingham) hooked and landed a splendid trout of 3 lb., and it is now in the hands of Mr. Jas. Stanley, taxidermist, Trent-street, for preservation. Mr. Stanley, with Messrs. Wilson and Theaker, have been holding "high festival" at Weston, and failing the fish feeding, the trio whiled away the time with a "concert" at which the first named very touchingly recited "The Lost Spinner." Mr. Wilson did full justice to Shakespeare—and for that matter, to a dozen poached eggs with as many rounds of buttered toast—whilst modest Theaker wound up the proceedings by singing Bates's popular piscatorial ballad entitled "Rabbit Pie." Weston was delighted with the performance, and sure enough they are to appear again at no distant date.—THE MAN AT THE CLUBS.

Usk.

No salmon have been taken this week with the rod and line, and the water is lower than it has been known at any time during several years past. The first netting by the water bailiffs took place on Tuesday. They commenced a little above the Chain Bridge, and worked the nets down to Usk Bridge, when it was ascertained that twenty fish had been taken, the largest weighing 22 lb. The common salmon did not appear to be in prime condition, but the grey or silver salmon (Sewen, *Salmo erioz*) were beautiful fish, and comprised more than half the number. The fishermen then netted the Bell Pool, a few hundred yards below the Bridge, where twenty-two fish were captured, the principal number being the silver salmon. On Wednesday the river between the Bell Pool and Llantrissant was netted, and 22 salmon were taken. Rain fell during a portion of Wednesday night and Thursday morning, but the river has not yet risen. There is every prospect of more rain falling, in which case there may probably be some good sport on Saturday and next week.—ARGUS.

Wharfe (Yorkshire).

The weather has been anything but favourable for the Whitsun-tide anglers, I am sorry to say, as the rivers are running very low and the days have been bright and sunny, with a suspicion of east in the wind's quarter. J. Duce, of Leeds, caught nine nice trout the other day at Swinsty Reservoir; I believe with maggot or worm. I had good sport with the fly on a strictly preserved length of water on Whit Tuesday, killing four and half brace of trout, which, together with one and a half brace that I caught on the previous evening, weighed 11 lb. The stone fly has not done so much execution as usual this season on the Yore; at least, not in the lower portion of the river. I killed seven trout and two dace with it and the iron blue dun the other day, but they did not take it at all boldly. Rain is very much needed, and from the state of the barometer to-day (Wednesday) I fancy that we shall have some before long.—FRANCIS M. WALBRAN.

Wye and Derwent.

The green drake season is now on, especially on the Wye and Lathkill, and many natural flies are even out on both of the above rivers. On the Derwent very few drakes have been seen up to the present time. Trout are beginning to rise nicely at them on the Wye and Lathkill, and fair catches have been had; but the best takes have been made with the yellow dun, dotterel, and little black flies. Trout in the Derwent have been playing more than feeding in the middle of the day, by springing up at that little nuisance, the midge. Morning and late in the evening are the best times to kill your dish of fish. At these times you will see thousands of yellows on the water, and the fish rising at them freely in the streams. I go out mostly the last thing at night, and can manage to bring home my four to six brace of trout. In the middle of the day, I recommend those who are fond of dibbing when the fish are not rising, to use the natural downlooker, or oak fly, or small black fly under the bushes and trees, and to keep well out of sight. The heaviest trout are taken this way. Having found, or seen a fish rise, let him sail round, and then drop your fly over him, and do not let either your gut or line touch the water—nothing but the fly. This is a most deadly way of taking large trout all through the hot months. We may consider the drake will be at its height by the middle of next week, and as we have had a very heavy thunderstorm this afternoon (Thursday), which has discoloured both rivers a little, good sport ought to be had on these rivers next week. The bottom fishers on the Derwent, about Matlock, have killed a few brace of trout, with ant eggs for baits this day. Weather very close, and hot thunder clouds hanging all around us.—GEO. JAS. EATON.

Yare (Norwich).

Some very fair catches of roach have been had on this river during the holidays. One boat at Burlingham brought in about 3 stone of roach—I am told in fair condition; but this I doubt, as I am authoritatively informed that they are still busy spawning. Another instance has been brought to my notice, where some unquestionably good, clean roach were caught, so I must give the first instance the benefit of the doubt. Roach angling on any other kind is not yet indulged in on the river by any considerable number. I am pleased to inform you that fly-fishing is making rapid progress in Norfolk. A friend of mine, fishing in West Norfolk on Monday, landed ten brace of trout, the largest about 12 oz.; and on Tuesday he defied the weather, and succeeded in catching five brace more. I trust the Wensum Society may be well supported by Norwich anglers, and that we shall ere long know the pleasure of handling a "Marston Trout Rod," in the proverbial flat county, with success. Prospects—tame.—ROBERT MOLL.

SCOTCH FISHING NOTES.

TWEED, TEVIOT, and other Border Rivers.—The non-appearance of rain is causing much anxiety among anglers of all classes on these rivers, and the exceedingly "fine" state of the rivers has rendered successful fishing out of the question. Last week, however, Mr. Charles Kerss killed five salmon on the Sprouston water, but there is no record of any more having been killed since last week. Trout anglers have fared a little better, however, as a few fair good baskets have been got, the heaviest take being got in the Kale and Jed; baskets of from nearly 11 lbs. down to 2 lbs. 4 oz. having been got last week. On the Greenlaw district of the Blackadder, takes have been small, but the Duns district of the Whitadder has yielded some very good baskets, the weights of the takes got running from about 3 lbs. up to nearly 8 lbs. At the Chirnside district, of the same river, the takes have not been so good, the best basket killed last week being about 4 lbs. The very low state of the rivers, and the dry season we have had, and are still experiencing, is sure ere long to put a

stop to angling, unless a much-needed and long-looked-for fall of rain occurs, to give us a good flood, so as to clear the beds of the streams, as well as to allow fish to ascend to the upper reaches. The reports from the Tweed net fishing stations say there has been a slight improvement during the week in the numbers caught; trout more plentiful than salmon, and prices are now—salmon 1s. 9d., and trout 1s. 6d. per lb. Weather to day fine, with no appearance of rain, the glass steady, and the wind from the S.E.—MAXWHEEL, Kelso.

THE TAY.—On the Tay on Thursday last, Mr. Campbell, gamekeeper, Derculich, caught a salmon of 18 lb.; and on the Grandtully water, Mr. McIntosh, gamekeeper, caught a salmon of 16 lb. On Friday the annual river competition of the Aberfeldy Angling Club came off. The water was in fair ply, and very good baskets were made, the best of which was that of Mr. Charles Munro, which had 15 lb. 9 oz. The heaviest trout weighed 1 lb. 2 oz. The same day, on the Castle Menzies water, Sir Robert Menzies' fishermen caught two salmon, weighing respectively 17 and 16 lb. On the Grandtully Castle water, Mr. J. McIntosh had one salmon of 16 lb.; and on the Findyate water, Strathlay, Mr. John Fraser had one of 18 lb. On Monday, the Derculich keeper landed a new run fish of 16 lb.

THE TUMMEL.—This tributary of the Tay, though running very low, continues to afford capital sport. Fishing the Bonskeid water on Friday, Mr. Purdie's gamekeeper killed a beautiful salmon of 10 lb., after some wild running. On Saturday, Mr. R. Thomson, Pitlochry, was out for a short time, and had a number of trout. Mr. Duncan Moon got a basket of 5 lb., and Mr. Robertson also had a substantial take. Trout, however, were not taking well during the day. Mr. Hugh Mitchell fished the Faskally water on Tuesday, and secured a nice fish of 13 lb. On Loch Tummel on Monday two gentlemen captured four trout, one of which weighed 3 lb., the other three being over 2½ lb. each. Captain Henderson and Admiral Summers were also out, and landed a beautiful trout of 3 lb., and some other good fish. On Tuesday the same gentlemen were out in balmy weather, and landed four trout, one of which weighed 3½ lb., and the other three over 1½ lb. each.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

T. F., Caistor.—The difference in the shape, in the scales, and, above all, in the colour of the eye, and the fins and tail, make it easy to distinguish young carp from young rudd—especially the red tinge on the fins and tail of the latter.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

LOACHES.

SIR,—When I was at Tiverton School I saw a boy catch a loach on a four-pronged fork, which weighed ½ lb. save ½ oz. It was in the still part of the Lowman, just above the outskirts of the town, which was called, I think, Ellmore, or Helmore, above Lowman Bridge. In the running water they are much smaller.

John Ridd speaks of that size as exceptional even in the Lowman, and does not pretend to say that he caught any of even half that bigness in the Badgworthy stream.—I am, &c., R. D. BLACKMORE.

P.S.—I think that I lessened the weight in the illustrated edition of "L. D.," knowing how unusual it is, and fearing to discredit fiction by fact.

[This personal testimony, from such a keen observer of nature as Mr. R. D. Blackmore, settles the fact that the loach does occasionally reach a weight of ½ lb.—ED.]

A NINE-POUND TROUT ON ICE FROM NEW ZEALAND.

SIR,—This society has much pleasure in sending for your acceptance a trout of about 9 lb. weight, per ss. *Tongariro*, to leave Lyttleton on May 3rd and arrive in London about June 15th. It was netted with others for freezing in Shag River, in March, and ought to be of excellent edible quality, as others were of the same haul, which were eaten here.—I am, &c.,

Otago Acclimatization Society, Dunedin,

W. ARTHUR, hon. sec.

April 25.

[We are very much obliged to the society, and anticipate with pleasure an introduction to this interesting stranger.—ED.]

TO DYE FEATHERS A GOLDEN COLOUR.

SIR,—If your correspondent "G. B.," who asks in your last issue for feathers of a bright golden colour, will follow these instructions, he will be able to get them of any shade he requires.

Get either pure white cock's hackles, or those with a slight natural yellow or golden tinge in them, tie them into bunches of six or eight feathers each, steep them in a pint of water, with one drachm of carbonate of potash dissolved in it, for several hours, wash them in the same, and then rinse them in clean cold water. Make a strong alum mordant, say as much alum as the water will easily take up; or, if "G. B." is a tyro at feather dyeing, let him put a bit of alum as big as a walnut into half-a-pint of boiling water, and "simmer" his feathers in that for a quarter of an hour or so. Get some good fresh turmeric, and boil about two tablespoonfuls of it in half-a-pint of water. Put the feathers into that, and boil till the depth of shade required is obtained, taking care throughout not to burn the feathers. About two or three minutes in the turmeric ought to give the shade "G. B." asks for.

And, to you, my salmon-fishing friends, be it known that the simple process I have described will give you all the shades of that glorious colour so beloved by Salmo salar, and called through out "Ould Oirland" the "Golden Olive."

I had been intending to send this and some other dyeing receipts to the GAZETTE before now, but feared I might be trespassing on the work I understand Mr. Kelson has undertaken, and, let us hope, soon about to publish.—I am, &c.,

EASTERN.

[We should be obliged if our correspondent would carry out his intentions: it will not interfere with Mr. Kelson's "Standard of Colours" at all.—ED.]

BARBEL TAKING SPINNING BAIT.

SIR,—Whilst spinning for trout in very rapid and rough water with one of Allies' artificial minnows yesterday, I hooked and landed a barbel weighing 4 lb. The minnow had evidently been seized by the tail, as the fish was hooked by the upper triangle, and the body and tail of the minnow were partly down the barbel's throat.

Is it a rare event to catch a barbel spinning with an artificial minnow? Here such a thing was never heard of before.—I am, &c.,

SKIN THE FISH.

Diekirch, Grand Duchie de Luxembourg,

June 3, 1884.

[Barbel in the Thames have often been taken both with live bait and spinning bait in trout or pike fishing.—ED.]

THE BLUE BELL.

SIR,—In Mr. Geo. M. Kelson's first article on the "Description of Salmon Flies" in your issue of 31st ult. he says:—"There should be no difficulty whatever in dressing any specimen if it were properly described." Now, without for a moment presuming to say that the terms he uses in his description of the Blue Bell are not correct, I would beg to point out that "silver lace" is an expression unknown to me, and I have a pretty large acquaintance with the different materials used in fly dressing. I know what tinsel, plate, twist, thread, worm all are, but I never heard of lace before. From what part of the bird are the feathers taken which form the hackle, throat, and wings of the Blue Bell? Without these particulars I submit that great departure from the correct pattern would very possibly take place, and the very salmon themselves utter the remark "Not known!"—I am, &c.,

EASTERN.

I am obliged to "Eastern" for calling my attention to the fact that "silver lace" is a term which is not universally known. I have never heard it called anything else. As there is some doubt, too, of the feathers which I illustrated and described for "Bluebell" being misunderstood, I consider it better to devote a paragraph in my next article to the subject.—GEO. M. KELSON.

THE WEST CENTRAL ASSOCIATION.

SIR,—I beg to inform you that the ordinary monthly meeting of the committee of the above association will not take place on Friday next. Any future meeting will be summoned by circular, by the secretary of The Anglers' Association (Mr. Ghurney).—I am, &c.

H. J. TIBBATS.

AMALGAMATION OF THE ASSOCIATIONS.

SIR,—The East and West Central Associations having really amalgamated, I have ceased to hold office as secretary, that post now being deputed to our able and esteemed friend Mr. Ghurney. It has been arranged, for the sake of convenience, that the secretaries of clubs lately enrolled with the West Central Association may continue to send their lists of names of members requiring privilege tickets to me, and I have undertaken to forward them immediately to Mr. Ghurney.—I am, &c.,

H. J. TIBBATS.

46, Bishopsgate Street Without, June 5.

[We are delighted to see this official announcement of the amalgamation, full particulars of which will be found in our "Club Jottings" this week.—ED.]

SALMON ANGLING AT RINGWOOD.

SIR,—As I see you have not mentioned Ringwood in your reports, it may interest you to know that I have been down there lately, and that the sport has been as follows:—

May 20, Mr. Greenhill, one salmon, 29½ lb.

May 21, myself, one salmon, 33 lb.

May 27, myself, one salmon, 26 lb.

May 29, Colonel Bridges, fishing at Avon Tyrrell, one salmon, 19½ lb.

The water now is lower and clearer than it has been known for years. There are plenty of fish in the river, as witnessed by the takes in the run at Christchurch—i.e., 116 the week before last and 296 last week. I should have had a fish or two more, but they were cutting the weeds for five days. The last fish I hooked and gaffed myself, and he gave me rare sport.

I am glad to see you are about to enlarge your paper, and wish you all success.—I am, &c.,

MARCUS H. LEWIS.

Newbury, June 1.

THE SHRIMP AS A SALMON BAIT.

SIR,—Seeing a letter from "Lex," in the FISHING GAZETTE of May 31st, asking for information respecting the use of the "shrimp," I write to say I have used the "shrimp," or rather "prawn," with great success for many years as a bait for salmon. It should be boiled, and of a nice red colour. If used in slow running water, should be tied on the hook so as to "spin," the point of the hook being inserted through the head and brought near the tail, and tied at each end with a little red thread or silk; in that way it can be used trolling in both slow and quick running water. It can also be used in the latter put on the hook the reverse way, and used casting, with a little lead about 8 inches from the bait, and again 18 inches higher up on the casting line, according to the depth and strength of the current. In casting, the bait should be thrown directly opposite the angler and allowed to swing round, care being taken not to allow the line to be ahead of the bait. In trolling with shrimp, I always place the lead about 2 feet from the bait, and use single gut. Fish will take a fresh shrimp much better than a stale one.—I am, &c.,

SENTRY.

P.S.—I shall be glad to give "Lex" any further information he may require.

June 1.

FISHING IN THE ISLE OF MAN.

SIR,—Allow me to express my sincere thanks to yourself and your correspondents—Mr. M. Reynolds, W. R. R., and Mr. J. Sutcliffe—for the information so kindly given concerning the fishing in the Isle of Man, for which I am greatly obliged.—I am, &c.,

F. LAYCOCK.

Bradford.

THE ARTIFICIAL HOUSE FLY.

SIR,—Your remarks re the house fly in your last issue set me experimenting—these are the results. Kindly let me know what you think of them, and if, on some future occasion, you kill anything with them, I shall be glad to hear.—I am, &c.,

BITTERN.

3, Southey Street, Cardiff, June 3.

[The imitation is certainly the best we have seen, and we are glad our suggestion has led to such a useful pattern being made.—ED.]

ANGLERS' CHEAP FARES.

SIR,—Kindly publish the following letters received in reply to our appeal for the re-issue of the above:—

"London and North-Western Railway, Euston Station,
"London, N.W.,

"May 28th, 1884.

"Sir,—I am in receipt of your letter dated to-day, and, in reply, have to say that the question of these anglers' tickets has received our best consideration; but, as I think I have already informed you, we really cannot find any valid reason for continuing to place anglers upon a more favourable footing than other members of the public.

"We, therefore, have come to the conclusion that the present arrangement cannot be continued, and I think it will be hardly worth while to trouble you to meet any of our officials, as our Board has issued instructions that the issue of anglers' tickets must cease.

"Yours faithfully,

"(Signed) RICHARD MOON."

"Great Western Railway,

"General Manager's Office, Paddington Station,
"London, W., 28th May, 1884.

"Sir,—The chairman has handed me the letter you addressed to him in reference to the withdrawal of the tickets at reduced rates which have hitherto been issued to members of angling associations.

"For your information I have to state that the question was fully considered and discussed at a meeting of the different companies, and, as there was no question whatever that the privilege had in many instances been grossly abused—especially in country places—it was resolved that it should be withdrawn.

"I may add that I have no reason to suppose that any instances of abuse have taken place so far as your society is concerned—no cases that I am aware of, having ever been reported against your members; but it is quite clear that we cannot make any exception in favour of Liverpool, and, at the same time, refuse to extend it to other angling associations in the country; and I regret, therefore, that, so far as this company is concerned, we have no alternative but to adhere to the resolution which was passed at the Clearing House.

"Your obedient servant,

"(Signed) J. GRIERSON."

The readers of the FISHING GAZETTE will not fail to note the wide difference in the tone and language of these two letters. That of the London and North-Western being cold and formal, without a word of regret at depriving anglers in so arbitrary a manner of the privilege they have enjoyed for some years, whilst that of the Great Western, though equally decisive, is kindly and apologetic, and effectually clears the members of this association from the meanness and criminality of abusing the withdrawn privilege.

I deeply regret this action of the railway companies, as, to a certain extent, it will throw angling associations back for a time; but, eventually, I cannot but believe, we shall be as strong and as united as ever. The directors seem to have quite overlooked the fact that angling is purely indulged in as a pastime, and that it can be done without, and that, unless inducements are held out, such anglers as cannot afford to pay the full fares will simply stay at home and keep the money in their pockets. I know I shall. Already I am half-a-guinea to the good, which amount would have gone into the railway's coffers under the cheap-fare arrangement. And this will be done by hundreds of other anglers, for the note of defiance has been sounded, and in no uncertain tones either, and the directors will find that other people can pass resolutions, and keep them as rigidly too.

I should be glad, Mr. Editor, if you would kindly say how the matter stands in London, and what is being done in respect of the withdrawal of these concessions. We shall be glad to assist in any way we can, and that may be pointed out.—I am, &c.,

R. WOOLFALL, hon. sec.,

The Liverpool Angling Association.

[We sincerely trust that no London anglers will still further jeopardise these privileges by sounding any "note of defiance." If every privilege ticket was withdrawn, and every angler who uses them reduced his fishing excursions one half (and only those who are absolutely compelled would do this), the companies would get as much money as before, and with one quarter the bother. We can hardly believe that any angler who has the chance of going fishing would give it up for the sake of any injury he might do the railway company!—and, even if he did, the fishing would improve by his absence, and someone else would go offener in consequence.—ED.]

THE "MARSTON" FLY-ROD.—The *Field* says:—"We have received from the maker, through Gillett and Co., of Fetter Lane, a 10-foot trout rod manufactured by Messrs. Alcock, of Redditch, and bearing on its butt a label inscribed "Marston's Fly Rod." Mr. Marston does not pretend in this to have invented anything new, but he has copied, with whatever improvements might be made, a favourite implement of his own, which had been, in its turn, copied from the rod of a Devonshire angler clergyman some years ago. The result is a very pretty and useful light rod of seasoned wood and extremely reasonable price, being sold by most fishing-tackle makers at 17s. 6d. For such work as will be required during the Mayfly season, however, and for casting in wide waters or against wind, we should recommend the longer rod of the same pattern, which we understand is being prepared. We gave the Marston rod a trial last week, and, 10 feet only though it was, we with it fought successfully and landed a 3½ lb. trout that struggled hard to get under the near bank, and that therefore required to be favoured with the butt."

"We see that our angling contemporary, the FISHING GAZETTE, is to be permanently enlarged on July 5th. It is always a healthy sign when either an angler or a newspaper has to "let out more line."—*Sporting Times*.

UNITED LONDON FISHERIES SOCIETY.—At Uxbridge, on Tuesday last, June 3rd, three men were charged before the magistrates with the unlawful possession of a quantity of freshwater fish (jack, perch, roach, and bream), taken from the society's water. They were convicted and fined. Mr. R. Ghurney, the secretary, prosecuted on behalf of the society. The case was proved by Detective Officer Vincent and T. Skillin, the keeper.

SALMON FISHING in Yorkshire has opened under remarkably auspicious circumstances, and there is every prospect of a good season. On the Ouse some fine fish, scaling up to thirty-six pounds, have been taken.

ILLEGAL FISHING IN THE SEVERN AT SHREWSBURY.

IMPORTANT DECISION.

At the Borough Police-court on Tuesday a man named John Clements was charged with having, in the close season, used a device for the purpose of catching eels, contrary to the Act.

Mr. John Stallard (clerk to the Severn Fishery Board) appeared in support of the summons, and Mr. Tanner, of Birmingham, for the defendant.

At the outset, Mr. Tanner objected to Mr. J. Hawley Edwards acting as magistrate's clerk on this occasion, on the ground of his being one of the most active members of the Board of Conservators.

It was pointed out that magistrates who were members of boards of conservators were allowed to adjudicate in all cases of illegal fishing, so long as the offence was not committed on their lands, and that Mr. Edwards was eligible to act as magistrate's clerk on this occasion, although he happened to be interested in the question at issue.

The chairman (H. Sandford, Esq.) said the Bench were very anxious to have the legal assistance of the clerk, but they never allowed him to prejudice their judgment.

Mr. Groves also expressed his appreciation of the clerk's able assistance on all occasions. The case then proceeded, but with the exception of recording the evidence, Mr. Edwards took no part in the case.

Mr. Stallard, in opening the case, said the proceedings were taken under the 15th section of the Freshwater Fisheries Act of 1883, which rendered it illegal for any person to use in a salmon river any device for taking eels between January 1st and June 24th, eel baskets not exceeding ten inches in diameter being the only exception to the rule.

On May 15th the local water bailiff, Francis Lloyd, saw the defendant on the river in a coracle, taking up six night lines.

On going to him, Lloyd found that the night lines were either baited with worms or minnows, and the defendant had about 11 lb. of eels in his possession.

Mr. Tanner asked the Bench to amend the summons so as to specify the particular device used, "to wit, a night line"; but as the summons was couched in the words of the Act, the application was not acceded to.

Mr. Stallard argued that the Act regarded night lines as devices whose use was forbidden, and the Bench concurred.

Francis Lloyd, water bailiff, bore out Mr. Stallard's statement of the case, and said that the lines were from twenty-five to forty feet in length. The hooks were about a yard apart and stones were used to sink them. There was nothing to prevent trout being caught on the lines, but he had not seen any taken in that way.

Defendant held a license entitling him to use one night line for taking trout and char. He did not think that night lines would obstruct the passage of salmon. As a rule people never fished for eels with rod and line, but such fish might be caught by those means. Witness saw defendant take some of the eels off the hooks.

Mr. Tanner remarked that this was the first case of the kind which had been brought into any court, and Mr. Stallard pointed out that it was the first case which had been reported to the board, and he contended that the Act did not apply to eels, as they were migratory fish.

The chairman said it was he'd that the Act of 1873 incidentally provided a close time for eels.

In the course of a long and intricate legal argument Mr. Tanner contended that the object of the Act was simply to prevent salmon being obstructed in their passage, and they had it in evidence that night lines would do nothing of the kind. There could be no intention of protecting eels, as eel traps were allowed. It was true that a man might hook an eel while trying to catch fish of another kind, and he asked the Bench to assume that this was the case with defendant.

After a consultation, the Bench said they were willing to give defendant the benefit of any doubt as to his intention, and he would be fined 5s. and costs.

Mr. Tanner gave notice of appeal, and a friend of the defendant's entered into his recognisances of £20 for payment of costs.

GEORGE JAMES EATON, of Starkholmes, Matlock-Bath, Derbyshire, respectfully invites Noblemen and Gentlemen to try his standard FLIES for the present season. No flies sent or made up but what he himself has proved sure killers. A trial is all that is required, from gentlemen who can fish, to prove whether they may be genuine or not. Patronised by some of the best fishermen of the day. All flies dressed on the best Kendal hooks. Prices; Point Flies, 2s. 6d. per Dozen; Dropper Flies, 2s. per Dozen. Orders punctually attended to.—(ADVT.)

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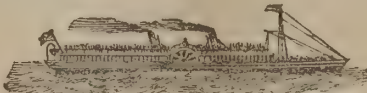
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YEARLINGS £2 per 100, £4.50 per 1,000.

Hatching Apparatus, and Fishing Tackle of all

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Contributions are solicited, but the Editor will not undertake to return rejected MSS. unless accompanied with a stamped addressed envelope.

Correspondents are requested to write on one side of the paper only, and give their real names and addresses, not necessarily as signatures to their letters, but as a guarantee of good faith. Unless this rule be adhered to, no notice will be taken of such communications.

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The Fishing Gazette.

SATURDAY, JUNE 14, 1884.

MORE AMALGAMATION OF ANGLING SOCIETIES.

ALL those who are interested in angling societies will read with pleasure the report of the meeting of the Kidderminster United Brothers' Society, which we publish this week. It clearly proves the truth of Mr. Geen's often-urged statement that the only way to save the railway privileges is to show the companies that they will be in a position to issue *one ticket to one responsible body*.

THE FISHERIES CONFERENCE AT THE SOCIETY OF ARTS.

ON June 18 (Wednesday next) we hope to see a good muster of gentlemen interested in the important matters which are to be discussed. We published the circular calling the meeting last week—it gives full particulars of the objects. The time of day chosen is twelve o'clock (noon)—quite sufficient, in our opinion, to account for a thin meeting; but we know several well-known anglers who intend to be present.

THE AMERICAN FISH CULTURAL ASSOCIATION.

AT the recent annual meeting of the above association the following gentlemen were elected to be corresponding members of the Association:

Prof. T. H. Huxley, H. M. Inspector of Fisheries for Great Britain; Edward Birkbeck, Esq., M.P., Chairman National Fish Culture Association of Great Britain; Sir James Gibson Maitland, Bart., Stirling, Scotland; R. B. Marston, Esq., Editor of the FISHING GAZETTE, London; Dr. Francis Day, F. L. S., late Inspector General of Fisheries for India; Thomas Brady, Esq., Dublin Castle, Inspector of Fisheries for Ireland; Archibald Young, Esq., Edinburgh, H. M. Inspector of Salmon Fisheries for Scotland.

TO CORRESPONDENTS AND SECRETARIES OF CLUBS.

IN consequence of the great pressure on our space we are obliged to omit a good deal of matter this week. We have over twelve columns of correspondence alone in type now; but what we wish to point out is that it is often impossible to insert communications received after Thursday morning. We have to keep so many columns open for the River Reports on Friday.

Of clubs which meet on Monday and Tuesday we often do not get the report until Thursday evening or Friday morning. The increase in size of the paper on July 5 will enable us to give one third more matter each week, but we must have the reports early to insure their insertion.

THE BENIGHTED ANGLER.

AN angler belated on Whit-Monday night
Had of trout a full basket—no prettier sight;
The fruits of a ramble, so pleasantly spent
In Darenth's fair valley—the Eden of Kent.

With rod long and supple, and thin tapered line,
And Gossamer collar, exceedingly fine,
Despite the clear water, with small yellow dun,
The fish were inveigled to make their last run.

It was about midnight, and by the last train
He reached his own station, and turned the home lane;
Beneath the soft starlight, and Luna's bright smile,
He hailed not the cabman, but walked the last mile.

With creel o'er his shoulder, and rod under arm,
He hied down West Croydon regardless of harm;
His boots were of rubber, and noiseless the tread—
No doubt he was weary, and ready for bed.

When rounding a corner, a blue-coat he saw,
Who, with his dark lantern and armed by the law,
Was walking the pavement and flashing his light
To see if the doorlocks were fastened aright.

The rod for a rifle policeman mistook,
Called "Stop!" to our angler, "Let me have a look!
What's that in your basket?—may be dynamite!"
He turned on his bull's-eye, but found all was right.

With trout in the larder, and good loving wife,
Well may a king envy the fisherman's life;
At nightfall, returning from waterside roam,
He needs no policeman to guide him safe home.

Manor Fishery, Caistor.

THOMAS FORD.

[Mr. Ford says: "I could not resist putting your Whit-Monday adventure to verse, and herewith enclose result."—ED.]

THE DEE (ABERDEENSHIRE).—GRILSE FLIES.

FIRST ARTICLE.

WITH pleasure we always hail the advent of the grilse season. In matters piscatorial, than its commencement nothing delights us more. Salmon-fishing is good, but grilse-fishing is superior. If skilful handling and exciting uncertainty on the one hand, and celerity of movement—darting and leaping—on the other hand, can be viewed retrospectively with highest delight, then to no kind of angling than angling for grilse can we assign a higher position.

In describing patterns specially suitable for the river Dee, our object has been, and will be, to have those descriptions appearing simultaneous with the time, when for practical purposes they can be utilised by the angler on these rivers. We will likewise aim at conjoining, under the title of "grilse flies," a selection of those patterns which alike for salmon, grilse, and sea trout we have found most suitable during the summer months. Moreover, we will endeavour to render description intelligible by minute and full detail; to state separately the suitability of each pattern for salmon, grilse, and sea trout; and quote from memory's record of experience what shade of cloud, hour of day, and colour of water certain flies were found to answer best.

Though we do not wish to appear otherwise than liberal in our opinion, we may take upon us to mention that we give a decided preference to brazen double irons, and are to state along with each description the sizes of irons (Limericks) ordinarily used. Generally speaking, the flies used for summer fishing in the Dee, though bright in appearance, are not gaudy. As a rule, they possess a smart, finished look. Spare bodies, unless for heavy water fishing, are acknowledged best. Strip wings, or wings of slight build, stand high in popular estimation. It is well known to Dee anglers that grilse often take the purely sea trout patterns, salmon seldom, and likewise that grilse rise freely to the salmon patterns in a heavy or discoloured water, and sea trout rarely. The regular grilse patterns, sized to the state of the water, may be used for general angling the season throughout, from May till October, unless, indeed, the river is exceedingly heavy. In the conviction that multiplicity only tends to bewilder, and a judiciously arranged selection to insure success, our description will merely extend to the more killing of such classes as by experience we have proved to cover the various shades and fishable condition of river.

One of our best known, though best killing, grilse flies comes under notice first.

No. 1.—THE PITFOUR.

A very good killer—grilse or salmon; suits best a fairly large water of brownish shade, occasioned by the west winds causing extra outflow from the lochs, or a few days' rain on the hills and moors giving the water a peaty tinge. In appearance, especially in the water, this fly has a close resemblance to the Jock Scott. For summer fishing, under conditions such as described, it can be used with greater advantage from morning till about five or six in the evening than later on. Brazen irons—Nos. 5, 6, 7, to suit the size of the water. Description as follows:—

Tag: Silver twist, and one turn yellow floss.

Tail: Small topping, and Indian crow.
 Butt: Black herl.
 Body: Black silk floss, neatly and sparsely laid on.
 Ribbed: Silver tinsel, very narrow, 7 turns.
 Wings: Double jungle, supporting a couple of toppings,
 Sides: A sprig of Indian crow (short), from out each side of body, half-way between head and butt.
 Hackle: Spare, greenish-blue hackle, simply round shoulder, and extending in length almost to tag.
 Black head.

No. 2.—THE DEE SUN-FLY.

Principally a grilse pattern.

When the day is scorchingly bright, and fish on the take at all, a proper-sized specimen of this pattern is almost certain to ensure a capture in any fishable size of water. Range of irons, 5, 6, 7, and 8.
 Description of fly:—

Tag: Silver thread, and bright yellow floss.
 Tail: Small topping, and two short sprigs Indian crow.
 Butt: Black herl.
 Body: Black silk floss, thinly laid on.
 Tinsel: Silver; very narrow; 5 turns in spiral form.
 Wings: Two or three Indian crow feathers to size of iron, and a couple of toppings.
 Feelers: Blue macaw on either side of wing.
 Hackle: Spare black hackle from turn of tinsel nearest to tag; greenish-blue hackle sparsely round shoulder.
 Black head.

No. 3.—THE BLUE CHARM.

Is as good a grilse fly as can be used from Banchory to Ballater; indeed, as its name implies, it is a perfect charmer. During the day nothing proves more effective in a moderately-sized water, or a fairly heavy water not too much discoloured. When this fly takes well in the day time a small Jock Scott may be relied on in the evening. Nos. 6 and 7 are very suitable sizes. With no purely grilse fly we know of is the angler so little dependent on shade. It is made up thus:

Tag: Silver thread.
 Tail: Small topping.
 Butt: Black herl.
 Body: Black silk floss.
 Ribbed narrow silver tinsel, 5 turns.
 Wings: Strips of mallard; very narrow strip distinctly marked teal over centre of mallard on either side, topping over all.
 Bright blue hackle half-way down body.
 Black head.

No. 4.—THE CLARET JOCK.

Suits a dull day, a clear water, and under these conditions can also be used in the evening with success. Salmon, grilse, and sea trout alike rise to it freely. In this respect it is rather an exception. Sizes, 5, 6, 7 and 8.

Described as follows:—

Tag: Silver thread and orange floss.
 Tail: A small topping and Indian crow (short).
 Butt: Bronze herl.
 Body: Rich claret floss.
 Tinsel: Narrow silver tinsel, 5 turns.
 Hackle: Claret, to match body, all the way from turn of tinsel, nearest to butt.
 Wings: Bustard and Mallard mixed; topping over all.
 Shoulder: Spare jay hackle round about.
 Cheeks: Jungle on either.
 Black head.

Nos. 1, 2, and 4 are our own patterns; 3, that of a well-known Deeside keeper.

W. M.

WILFUL DESTRUCTION OF FISH NEAR PONTEFRAC.—At the West Riding Court, Pontefract, on Saturday, before Mr. Theo. Peel, Captain Armytage, Mr. E. E. Leatham, and Mr. R. Moxon, William Rose and Charles Bramley, two miners from Wombwell, near Barnsley, were charged with destroying four trout fish in a stream at South Elmsall, belonging to Mr. William Aldam, of Frickley Hall, on the 1st June. From the evidence of Police-constable Oxley, stationed at South Kirby, it was shown that the two defendants were seen on Sunday morning, the 1st June, at the edge of the stream poisoning the water, and on seeing the policeman they both ran away. On the officer reaching the stream four dead fish were found, and the water was discoloured for some distance with a kind of slimy white. The defendants were followed by the policeman for nearly two miles, and never lost sight of. Mr. Lodge, of Wakefield, appeared to prosecute on behalf of Mr. Aldam, and stated that fish had been destroyed extensively for two years past. The magistrates fined each the full penalty, £5, or two months, and ordered to pay value of the fish, 2s. 6d.—*Yorkshire Post.*

THE ALLEGED TROUT DISEASE IN THE SHEFFIELD WATER COMPANY'S LARGEST DAM.—Alarming reports were industriously circulated at the latter end of last week, respecting the death from disease of fungoid growth of trout in Hadfield Dam, Sheffield. The real facts of the case are these. Several dead trout were found in the Hadfield Dam, Crookes. The trout appear to have died from a disease well known to fishermen, but which is in no way connected with the water. It is a well-known fact that Hadfield Dam contains upwards of 21,000,000 gallons of water, about one-fifth part of which is changed every day, and the utmost care is taken to prevent any contamination. The disease is stated to be common to trout in rivers and streams, though the disciples of Izaak Walton have not been able to explain its origin. The number of trout discovered in the dam is about a score. It will be satisfactory to the public to learn that the company's engineer has noticed of late years a gradual improvement in the Sheffield water. Good as it always has been, the samples recently sent to him have been remarkably satisfactory, which is to be attributed, no doubt, to the care taken over the watershed in excluding all impure sources of supply.

ON THE DESCRIPTION OF SALMON FLIES.

By Mr. GEO. M. KELSON.

MAJOR TRAHERNE'S PATTERNS —(Continued).

No. 3.—GITANA.

THE readers of the FISHING GAZETTE are kindly given to understand that the terms which I adopt for the manufacture of salmon flies are not generally known; the correspondent is evidently one of the gentlemen who is unacquainted with this "alphabet" in fly-tying, which is, or should be, the first lesson for amateurs to learn. It would be advisable also for them to prepare for a strict examination in ornithology, and for a cross-examination with flies before them, as to where this, that, or the other feather is plucked.

Until the standard colours are established, a good deal must necessarily be left to the discretion of dressers, however intimate these terms may be; but eventually the *size of the materials only* will be left to their judgment.

Like the rest of the world, we are liable to forget that which we chiefly desire to recall, and we are all forced to remember sometimes that which we would wish to forget.

Suppose we were to wander into any court of justice, should we not see "association" at work with a witness before he would be able to relate with accuracy some important testimony? Now, I have often heard it remarked that if a fly-tier is thoroughly *impressed*, he will never forget; perhaps "impression" is the secret of memory, but we should remember that "association" is the leaning-post upon which the memory rests. For instance, if the intellect be weak or defective, two facts must naturally be associated in order that one may be the more readily remembered.

But, whether fishermen, fly-makers, or inventors, nothing should be allowed to be fixed on our mind to the exclusion of other teaching.

With regard to the precise meaning of expressions commonly used in describing flies, would it not be a work of supererogation if I were to extemporise upon every feather, and where could I stop if I were to begin? The columns of this journal are always open to correspondents, and, as hitherto, I shall be pleased to reply to the best of my ability to any questions that may be addressed to the Editor.

If cheeks of blue chatterer were ordered, I submit we should all know that the crest feathers are kept for small, and those off the rump, for large flies.

If Mallard was directed for one ingredient in the wing, we should not only know where to put the strip, but we should be sure it meant brown Mallard, because if the other feather was intended, grey mallard would be written.

Tippet would indicate strands of the golden pheasant neck feather, but if the whole feather was wanted it should be stated Tippet feather in the description.

The whole feather is tied on of the following, when written:—Indian crow, Chatterer, Jungle, Toucan, Impeyan pheasant, Kingfisher, Starling, Enamelled Thrush, Azure Pitta, and perhaps a few others, unless otherwise ordered. The latter pretty little bird from Borneo, as a youngster, is valueless; but invaluable after a certain age for fancy filigree work on the body of large flies, and it is a great favourite for hackling grilse flies.

Until informed, I question if beginners could tell us what part of the bird hackles come from. There used to be an instrument for dressing flax to make the old-fashioned lines with, called a hackle. I don't know how it would play in the water, but if we wanted to drive the fish from some small and impregnable pool, it would certainly be a splendid adjunct to the fisherman's kit.

To fulfil my promise, the wing of Bluebell (see FISHING GAZETTE, 31st ultimo) was described "Red Macaw," which means strands of the right and left side of a leading tail feather. The hackles "blue Macaw," from those found at the extremity of the rump over the tail; these vary in size, and their colour is lighter than all other macaws' feathers, except the "powdered blue" from the red species. The throat "yellow Macaw," is one of the flank feathers off the body at the side. The little breast feathers being reserved for smaller flies.

There is a deal of difference in the size of these flank feathers, and also in the quality of tone, accounted for by the age of the bird. These feathers should be soaked in water before winding them on the hook, otherwise the quill is liable to split; and all other large ones of this useful bird should be similarly treated when intended for hackles.

With regard to "silver lace," which signification is probably primitive, perhaps "silver rope" or "cord" would have been a more appropriate appellation; but to clothe these tinsels afresh in the current language of our time would be to create an inconceivable confusion. I confidently hope the following information may dispel any future difficulty in this respect:—

TWIST

Is almost universally used for tags, whether silver or gold; it is white floss silk closely covered with the finest tinsel, is round, and as thin as dressmaker's thread.

LACE

Is two pieces of twist twisted together; three pieces are used for very large flies; it can be purchased on reels in either silver or gold.

TINSEL

Is cut into narrow flat widths from a thin sheet of the material, and may be known as a parallel shaving of thin plate; silver, gold, and almost any other colours are sold. The modern tinsel, which is the

most fashionable now, is termed "oval tinsel." It is not so showy as the other, but, like twist, it has the immense advantage of intersected silk, which makes it nearer proof against the sharp tooth of a salmon. Another tinsel, only supplied in gold, is called in fly-making "Japanese tinsel"; it is manufactured in various sizes, the smallest being frequently employed for tags. It is said that none of these tarnish; the fact is, they do not last long enough or else they would. The material over the silk is not tinsel, but, I believe, a very strong paper. Then there is a dented tinsel in gold or silver, which bears the name "embossed tinsel." And there are perhaps twenty varieties of "tinselled chenille," or frosted thread.

THREAD

Is solid round silver or gold wire.

The whole of these can be purchased at Mr. George Kenning's, Little Britain, London, in large or small quantities, where all the best of these materials are to be found.

While upon this subject, fishermen visiting the Health Exhibition should inquire for the "Old Street." The shops are taken by the City Companies.

The "Gold and Silver Wyre Drawers Company" is represented by Mr. Kenning, the immediate Past Master, and the exhibit shows the gradations of sizes from the solid bar of silver gilt to that measuring 2,600 yards to the ounce.

The above slight outline of preliminaries may serve to suggest that the fly-dresser's pupil has something to learn before he begins to work. The power of invention, however, is only acquired by long years of close attention and experience by the riverside.



MAJOR TRAHERNE'S PATTERNS OF SALMON FLIES.—No. 3.

A glance by any old fisherman at this unique and interesting illustration, and he must be satisfied that the fly would be singularly attractive either in light or dark pools. It may be described:—

Tag: Silver twist, and red silk the same colour as the points of the Indian crow.

Tail: Two toppings; Jungle, and Kingfisher, one of each on either side.

Butt: Black herl.

Body: One-third silver tinsel; over which four Indian Crow, two at top, two at bottom, back to back, sideways; continuing with three or four close turns of black herl. The rest black silk.

Hackle: Black, from silk.

Ribbed: Silver tinsel, and gold lace.

Throat: Green macaw (the feather is from under the wing or tail of the bird).

Wings: Two dark blue Macaw feathers (taken from the top of the wing), Jungle on either side extending beyond tag, and five Tippet feathers, as illustrated, reaching to the butt, with three or four golden Pheasant toppings over.

Cheeks: Enamelled Thrush.

Head: Black herl.

Independently of a wonderful display of inventive power, there is an air of reality about this fly; it could not possibly fail to win a success, in any river where large flies are favoured.

Dressed much larger, it is a good spring pattern for the Tay, Tweed, and Shannon; it is also first-rate in Norway. I have never seen one smaller than the illustration, and, therefore, am not sure whether those that might be tied summer-size would damage or heighten its unusually good reputation. It is certainly a rare and radiant specimen, and the great bulk of salmon anglers will admit that Gitana only needs to be known to give it at once an interest and a brevet of value; indeed, its masterly conception and exceptional compounds must ensure its future fame.

This fly is also supplied in various sizes by Messrs. Farlow, and Co., Strand; Mr. Bernard, Piccadilly; Mr. P. D. Malloch, Perth; and Mr. James Wright, Sprouston, Kelso.

GEORGE JAMES EATON, of Starkholmes, Matlock-Bath, Derbyshire, respectfully invites Noblemen and Gentlemen to try his standard FLIES for the present season. No flies sent or made up but what he himself has proved sure killers. A trial is all that is required, from gentlemen who can fish, to prove whether they may be genuine or not. Favourited by some of the best fishermen of the day. All flies dressed on the best Kendal hooks. Prices: Point Flies, 2s. 6d. per Dozen; Dropper Flies, 2s. per Dozen. Orders punctually attended to.—(ADVT.)

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

W.B.—On July 5 our space will be increased, and then we hope to continue the sea-fishing articles. There are difficulties in the way of resuming the other account to which you refer. The price of the paper will be the same as now.

M. L. H.—No. 1 is a first-rate salmon reel, but we like No. 2 best for trout. See also "Correspondence."

ARROW HEAD.—We have repeatedly, in back numbers, given recipes for dressing lines and staining gut. Consult the Index; if you have not got one we will send it to you.

CLUB SECRETARY.—It was our duty to give our opinion of Mr. Geen, knowing as we did how unfairly he had been attacked; but much as we should like to see London club anglers united, it is no part of our policy to take sides with either party. It is dangerous to meddle in family matters.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

MR. FRANCIS FRANCIS.

It gives us very great pleasure to publish the following note.

Royal Hotel, Winchester, June 11.

DEAR MR. MARSTON,—You will be pleased to hear that Mr. Francis Francis has made such good progress towards recovery from his serious illness, that he is able to visit his old friends here "The May Fly Mess," much to the delight of its members, who were pleased to find that he was able to do several hours fly-fishing yesterday, without fatigue, and still retains his well-known angling form.

May fly season here very poor.—I am, &c.,

WILLIAM A. CRUMP.

DRY OR WET FLY.

SIR,—The dry fly is all the fashion nowadays, and it is amusing to see the fly-fisher flogging the air before again casting over a fish. No doubt many a trout is thus lured to his destruction; but whether the dry fly will kill more or bigger fish than the wet fly, when properly cast over a trout, is still a moot question. As a rule, I throw a wet fly, and I find I can hold my own, even in the Hampshire rivers. I had two days on one of the clear Berkshire streams coming from the chalk hills on Saturday, May 31, and Monday, June 2 (Whit-Monday). On both days I used the wet fly with the following results:—

Saturday.—Wind north-east, cold, gloomy; at times some sunshine; commenced about 10.30 with a small hare's ear; fish began rising about 11 at a small dark dun, weeds unfortunately coming down. With this fly I got two and a half brace of good fish, besides putting back two brace not quite regulation size (11—12 inches). The rise was over at 2 p.m., and no fish moved till 5 o'clock; between that hour and 6.30 I got two brace more, with a small red spinner, and lost two good fish in the weeds, which were rather thick; but it is better to have clumps of weeds than to have them all clean mowed.

Monday (Whit-Monday).—Wind south-west, warm, with a breeze upstream. Began at 10.30, with the alder—no effect; about 11, a small dun came on, with a few May-flies (I only saw about twenty of the latter during the day). I put on the Whitchurch dun, and threw over a fish I saw feeding. He took it at once, and another just above him did the same—both fine fish, about 1½ lb. each. I then saw a good trout take a May-fly. I put one on; well wetted it before casting; threw over him (about 1 foot above) and came down. I saw him rise to it; a turn of the wrist, and I had him fast—a good fish, over 1½ lb. A little higher was another taking the May-fly. I served him in the same manner, but, unfortunately, lost him in a bunch of weeds floating down. (These were the only two fish I saw feeding on the May-fly.) For the next hour and a half nothing could be done; the weeds came down so thick that they completely covered the water. (I wish there could be a close time for weed-cutting.) However, being Whit-Monday, I conclude that the weed-cutters took a half-holiday. About 2 o'clock the river became clear again, and I got two brace of very fine fish, with the Whitchurch dun. The water had got so clear and low that I could see every feeding fish, but bunches of weeds remained sticking in many parts. They helped me to lose two more good fish. About 3, the rise was over; but it came on again for a short time at 5, and, with the red spinner, I got two more fish and turned over three or four, but they came too short. Not a fish would move after 6 o'clock; but I had got five brace, not one under 1 lb., and a good many much heavier, besides putting back at least as many more. All the fish on both days were killed with the wet fly.—I am, &c.,

SILVER DOCTOR.

["Silver Doctor" (who is an old salmon and trout angler and genuine enthusiast) has boldly thrown down the gauntlet to the dry fly fraternity, and doubtless a very pretty little passage of arms between some champions of the dry and the wet will be the result. In a private note "Silver Doctor" says his letter was written "before I read your article last week. I see you use the dry fly." We use both—in fact, have used three flies in the ordinary way with success on slow chalk streams, especially where the dry fly business had been a little overdone. But there is something very fascinating in making your bit of feather and steel come sailing jauntily among the natural flies, and then see it suddenly disappear as it passes over the fish you have cast for, and it is unquestionably more difficult fishing in this way than with the wet fly. In a mountain stream we always use the latter style, except occasionally on the pools. To get your fly properly above the fish, to make it float, to let it float uncontrolled by the line, and yet to be able to hit the fish in spite of slack line which has floated down towards you, is not an easy matter. That "Silver Doctor" did well with the wet fly is no proof that he would not have done better with the dry fly. We should much like to see a match between the "Doctor" and some good hand with the dry fly. Of course, it should be on a still day, as on a breeze-swept surface formed into tiny waves the fish will take the wet fly well, then the naturals are often half drowned. Can any of our readers say when the "dry fly" system came into practice first, and who invented it?—ED.]

STANDARD COLOURS.

SIR,—I am very much in hope that I shall be able to say something definite upon this subject shortly. Mr. Alexander Fairweir here, the London manager to Messrs. Campbell, of Perth, has already submitted a few samples, which are satisfactory, and I have the fullest confidence that some of the remaining

shades which I expect to see next week will be equally satisfactory. These colours, by a special process, appear the same exactly either in or out of water.

With regard to crimson magenta, personally, I prefer my own original sample; but as there appears to be so many opinions, I have decided to have none at all, and get over the difficulty by providing five shades of crimson and the same of magenta; then gentlemen can mix it to suit their requirements. The "fiery browns" of Mike Rogan have given general satisfaction, but I doubt if we shall get more than three shades, which should surely be ample.—I am, &c.,

GEO. M. KELSON.

THE RECENT AMALGAMATION OF THE TWO LARGER ASSOCIATIONS.

SIR,—It has been suggested to me that there are several reasons why it is desirable that I should prepare and present, through the piscatorial press, to the anglers of London a statement of such facts as will enable them to form a correct idea of how the much-desired and long-talked-of amalgamation has been brought about, together with an explanation of the basis on which the new association, "The Anglers' Association," is formed, and at the same time to give an outline of the objects to be achieved and the mode of procedure to be adopted to secure the desired results.

It cannot be necessary that I should extend the scope of this letter by attempting to show the pressing necessity which existed for the acceptance of some scheme which would prevent the extraordinary waste of funds necessitated by the old systems; neither need I go into the much-to-be-regretted waste of good men's time—men whose names must perforce rise to the lips of such as have a knowledge of angling interests—men who have been content to labour with a full knowledge that many of their efforts must be unfruitful and ought to be unnecessary, yet they have cheerfully and unweariedly laboured with the hope that the day would come when the doing of work three times over with triple expenses would be a thing of the past, and when they would be in receipt of that reward which voluntary labour is ever entitled to, viz., a knowledge that their efforts are wisely and economically directed for a good purpose.

I shall take it for granted that we are all of one mind that some scheme of unity of action was necessary. It is now just twelve months since, at the request of Mr. Bonvoisin, I consented to write a paper which should embody the ideas which had resulted from the many and long conversations he and I had held on this subject during the five or six preceding years. The paper, "The Better Organisation of the London Anglers," met with the most favourable reception possible, and I attribute this considerably more to the fact of its asking for what was needed than to its being anything like perfect in its suggestions. Beyond this, we have the fact that after a year's discussion at the clubs and in the press, the associations at meetings larger than have ever met together before, decided by unanimous votes that amalgamation was desirable.

It has been said by a few persons that while they admit that amalgamation was desirable, they could not approve of the manner in which it has been brought about. I am not one to shield myself behind set phrases, such as "The ends justify the means," &c., &c. I have been long enough connected with, and have sufficient intimate friends amongst anglers, to cause me to be careful on their account, as well as my own, that all I may do on their behalf shall be done so that the most captious of critics may be fearlessly invited to turn his magnifiers on to what has been done, said, or written; and I hereby invite attention from any such—if there be any now—to the following statement of "How Amalgamation was brought about."

It must be remembered, please, that we all wanted amalgamation, but it must also be remembered that this particular "all" must be read to mean that there were exceptions, and, unfortunately, these exceptions, few as they were, had sufficient influence to make nugatory all efforts to bring about the desired result. One of my principal fears has for some time been that our want of unity would result in the loss of our railway concessions, which concessions have not only proved an immense boon to that large portion amongst our number to whom a reduction of fare meant the difference between fishing and no fishing, but which also must ever be the backbone of unity and the only source of income. This fear has been strengthened from time to time by complaints from the railway authorities that the concessions were being abused, and when the following letter was received I was not surprised that my association should pass a vote instructing me to see Mr. Verrinder on the subject.

"London and South-Western Railway,
"Superintendent's Office, Waterloo,
"17th March, 1884.

"SIR,—I have to inform you that the Anglers' Ticket, No. 872, in favour of 'G. Wand,' of the 'Grange,' was presented twice on the 12th inst. (7.35 a.m. train), at the booking-office, Waterloo, for a cheap ticket. The party who held it when it was presented the second time was asked his name and address, and he eventually gave it as 'Rich, London Bridge.'

"I may state for your information that these abuses are becoming so frequent, that several of the railway companies are desirous of abolishing the cheap tickets, and it was only last week I was asked for my concurrence in doing away with the privilege altogether.

"It is scarcely necessary to inform you that the practice of transferring members' tickets to persons not entitled to use them is a very objectionable one, and apart from the penalty which such individuals incur by so doing, the result will be that the privilege now enjoyed by anglers generally will be entirely withdrawn if this dishonesty is not put a stop to.

"I shall be glad to hear from you as to the present instance.

"I am, Sir,

"Your obedient servant,

"E. W. VERRINDER.

"Mr. Tibbatt's,

"Sec. West Central Association."

I having explained to Mr. Verrinder the particulars of this case, he informed me that unless something could be suggested which would be likely to prevent these fraudulent practices, and justify his recommending that the concession be given back on the opening of the season, he feared it would have to be taken away altogether. "What can you suggest, Mr. Geen?" was the question put to me. It required no thought on my part to discover the only possible remedy to save these concessions, and surely I could not have exceeded my duty to the anglers of London when I said, "Try one ticket, and hold one body responsible for the observance of the regulations." Those few words, spoken in the interests of all anglers, without a thought or desire of benefiting any particular association, sowed the seed, which has quickly grown, as it was intended to, into amalgamation, and there can be no true and unselfish angler who will now for one moment regret that I gave

such advice, neither can anyone justify dissatisfaction with the results which have followed.

Fortunately, those whose interests I have attempted to serve in this matter have still further cause for congratulation than is contained in what I have already stated. It had become publicly known, through a telegram sent to the Editor of the FISHING GAZETTE, that the London and North-Western Railway had with drawn the cheap fares for anglers, and that the Great Western Railway had, "it was believed," determined to do so also.

Some years since, I undertook the task of directing the efforts which resulted in gaining these railway concessions, and it pained me so much to see them slipping from our grasp that I could not resist making an attempt to save them, and, as the letter which I wrote the Great Western shows that I had no desire to interfere with the three-tickets system, provided it was working satisfactorily, I will give here a copy of it, together with the reply:—

"Lowther Lodge, Barnes,
"April, 1884.

"ANGLERS' CHEAP TICKETS."

"DEAR SIR,—A telegram from Mr. Neale, of the London and North-Western Railway, to the Editor of the FISHING GAZETTE, informs the Anglers of London that your company have, or are about to seriously consider the advisability of withdrawing the great privilege which we at present enjoy on your line. I sincerely hope that this information may not be correct; but, in the event of its being your intention to consider this matter, I beg that you will, in the interests of that large number of anglers who use your railway, permit me a few minutes' interview before you proceed any further, so that I may learn your views and endeavour to show you that, whatever abuses have taken place, have not been of that character which would, after explanation, cause your company to determine to withdraw this concession.

"Should you, after having seen me, have cause to feel dissatisfied with the present management of this concession, I will, with your permission, submit for your consideration that for the future there should be one ticket instead of three, and one central body to control its issue, who should be held solely responsible for carrying out the regulations under which they are issued.

"I am, dear sir,

"Yours respectfully,

"PHILIP GEEN.

"G. N. Tyrrell, Esq.;

"Traffic Manager,

"Great Western Railway."

"Office of Suptdt. of the Line,
"Paddington Station,
"25th April, 1884.

"DEAR SIR,—I regret that, in consequence of absence from the office, I did not receive your letter on the subject of the withdrawal of the issue of cheap tickets to anglers until my return.

"I shall be happy to see you, as you wish, any day next week, if you will call here between 10.30 a.m. and twelve noon.

"Yours truly,

"Philip Geen, Esq.,

"Lowther Lodge, Barnes, S.W."

"G. N. TYRELL.

When I saw Mr. Tyrrell, I judged from the conversation that the question of anglers' tickets on his railway was almost decided against us, and I pleaded, that he would try the one ticket for London, as Mr. Verrinder, of the South-Western, had determined to do. What is the result? Mr. Ghurney and I waited on Mr. Tyrrell on the 4th inst., when he gave us the pleasing news that, although his company had taken away the concessions from all the provincial towns, he was willing to do as the South-Western had done—give our one ticket a trial, adding there must be one secretary and one body, whom we can hold responsible for the observance of the regulations under which anglers' tickets were first granted.

It was by these means that amalgamation was advanced from a thing to be desired to that which was essential, and now to a *fait accompli*.

The new association's title is "The Anglers' Association," and it is to be governed by delegates from the angling societies affiliated to it. Representation is an important matter, and in deference to the strong feeling that there should be a system by which clubs should have delegates somewhat in proportion to the number of tickets they took, it has been decided that clubs taking less than thirty shall have one, clubs taking more than thirty, and less than one hundred two, and those few who take more than one hundred, three.

Amongst other advantages of this mode of representation, will be that it will tend to discourage the splitting up tendencies of the societies, and will be a direct encouragement for the smaller ones to persevere in their efforts to make their societies of more importance.

The objects to be achieved by the new organisation are, briefly, as follows:—
The collection of the necessary funds by the sale of the privilege ticket.

To preserve, or assist to preserve, the waters we fish.

To rent and preserve waters for the exclusive use of our members.

To jealously guard our railway concessions from abuse, and to try for others.

To promote and protect every interest that affects us as anglers.

To hold out a friendly and helping hand to those of our members who, through no fault of their own, may become needy and distressed.

To do this work in a practical and efficient manner, three committees of twelve each have been elected, one called the Railway Concessions and Finance Committee, a second the Fisheries and Preservation Committee, and the third the Benevolent Committee. These gentlemen have been elected in equal numbers by the old associations, and each of them have elected to serve on the committee to which his services would be likely to prove most valuable. In addition to this, each association has elected a chairman for one of the committees, a trustee, and one of the three principal officers.

I cannot help thinking that this was the best possible mode of election for the first year, as each association was the best judge of who amongst themselves was most fitted to fill any particular office, and we have, by this means, secured the best men from the three old bodies to form the working committee of the new.

The Finance and Railway Concessions Committee, assisted by their chairman and the general secretary, will meet the second Monday in each month, and their duties will include the payment of salaries and all accounts passed by the committees on account of waters rented, or grants to preservation societies, or for the conviction of poachers, &c., to have a full knowledge of our financial position, and be prepared to answer any questions put by delegates at the monthly meetings which may be pertinent to this portion of their duties. In respect to the important matter of the concessions they will investigate and adjudicate on the abuses (if any) that may arise, but it may fairly be hoped

that now all anglers will know how much is at stake, and how surely and fearlessly justice will be meted out to them, that they will hesitate before they do that which would cause them to be looked upon as black sheep.

The Benevolent Committee of twelve and a chairman, assisted by the general secretary, will meet twice a month, so as to give the necessary opportunity for prompt attention to any appeal which may be made for assistance. The rules and regulations of the old Anglers' Benevolent Society were drafted with such care, and have been so discreetly amended by experience, that in all probability the majority of them will be adopted by this committee. The question of including the anglers' subscriptions to this fund in the ordinary yearage for the privilege ticket is one which need not be considered with haste, as it has wisely been decided that for the first year the subscriptions shall be voluntary, as before.

The Fisheries and Preservation Committee will also have twelve members, a chairman, and be assisted by the general secretary. Their duties will be to take over the work of the old Fisheries Society, and to proceed to organise a system of preservation or assistance to those who are preserving the waters our members fish. It would occupy far too much space were I to attempt to expound my views on the duties of the London anglers in reference to preservation, and to merely hint at what my opinions are in this respect would, I feel sure, only lead to misapprehension; therefore I pass over the subject by the general statement that as we grow in unity and strength we shall have a fuller appreciation of the fact that it is our duty, and ours only, to preserve the waters we fish.

The delegate meetings will take place on the first Monday in each month, at a meeting place other than a public house, and after the minutes have been disposed of, and the secretary has read the correspondence on such subjects as have not been delegated to either of the committees, the chairmen of the three committees will read their reports, together with such recommendations as they or their committees may deem advisable. After which it will be open to delegates to ask any question or to raise a discussion on such reports which would end in the report being either adopted or referred back to the committee for revision.

Permit me, Sir, before closing this letter, to refer back to the subject of the terms agreed upon at the preliminary meetings between three representatives from each of the three associations.

I feel sure no one desirous of uniting the three bodies into one can possibly find fault with the terms mutually agreed upon so far, that each association was to elect one-third of the officers, that is, twelve committee-men, a chairman of committee, and a trustee. Indeed, we may go a step further without fear of creating a difference of opinion, and say that all are pleased that Mr. Ghurney should be secretary. Now, this leaves us with the offices of president, vice-president, and treasurer to be filled up by the West Central and Central. I don't think it can be for a moment urged that the Central has any ground for complaint that the West Central representatives get apportioned to them the office of president, as they got the other two offices, or, in other words, they are offered one more office to fill than the West Central, although the latter body have seven times as many clubs and members of clubs who subscribe to it as compared with the former. But, forcibly as this explanation must appeal to ninety-nine out of every hundred, the remaining individual has a right to be heard, and he proclaims that it is unfair that any one association should elect the president. I have laboured hard and anxiously to bring about a perfect amalgamation of the London anglers, and it shall not be said, notwithstanding the unanimous and enthusiastic manner of my election by the largest delegate meeting ever held in London, that I deterred any man or men from coming in because I would not submit myself for election to the whole body.

I hereby invite the third association to join with the two larger associations in the good work which they have undertaken, and if they will refrain from filling up the offices of treasurer and vice-president, which were given them as an equivalent for the office of president, I will place my resignation in the hands of the general body and submit myself for re-election, so that they may elect whom they please for president, vice-president, and treasurer. It has been said, "Let us have a lord or an M.P. for president." This won't do at any price. The individual who made that suggestion can know little or nothing of the strong feeling and determination which exists amongst the great bulk of the anglers of London that their places of honour shall be reserved for those amongst themselves who may prove that they are the most fit and proper persons to fill them. Fortunately, we have many good and true men amongst us to whom it will be our duty to offer the office of president before we see the necessity to search for such men either beyond or above us.

Nothing remains, Sir, for me to add. The loudly-proclaimed difficulty, which it was hoped was insuperable, is removed. Will No. 3 association come in now, and if not, why not?—I am, &c.,

PHILIP GEEN,
Lowther Lodge, Barnes.

ANGLERS' CHEAP FARES.

SIR,—Having read with much interest the correspondence *re* Anglers' Tickets, I wish to draw the attention of my brother anglers in this town and the district generally, to the situation in this point of the country. In your last issue there is a warlike epistle from the Liverpool secretary urging anglers "to sound the note of defiance to the railway companies," and a footnote of your own deprecating that advice. Now, without going to the extremity Mr. Woolfall urges on us, I think that all anglers in this country doing business with railway companies on a large scale (similar to ourselves running two annual trips, which require something like 1,900 tickets at 2s. 3d. per head) should at least show the English common sense of putting their money out to the best advantage. Perhaps the best way out of the difficulty is to provide fishing at home (which where practicable is sure to produce the best results), and trust to the companies' season excursions for the long distances. Now, in this town there seems to be a formidable difficulty in taking this step—not that we are short of numbers or waters to fish in, but because that having been situated all their lives within moderate distance of good waters with unlimited privileges, anglers fail to comprehend the wisdom of this preservation, until, by the enterprise of other associations and the actions of the railway companies, they are finally (as is sure to come) driven to it. On two occasions attempts have been made to acquire waters which unfortunately failed. But let us not be cast down, but meet the difficulty like men, and appoint a committee who thoroughly understand every requirement for the successful treatment and natural conditions of fish, to hunt round until they do find a suitable place. One gentleman willing to meet us might be a stepping-stone to even greater attainments. Let us only attempt in earnest and we are sure to succeed.—I am, &c.,

JOHN WALSH,

President Queen's Angling Society, Bolton.

[Nothing could be more sensible than this advice. It does seem strange that, with good waters which only require a little care and stocking, the Bolton

anglers do nothing in this direction, and yet they probably spend every year ten times as much in railway fares as it would cost to get and maintain fishing in their own neighbourhood.—ED.]

MR. KELSON'S DESCRIPTIONS OF SALMON FLIES.

SIR,—May I suggest that it would be a great advantage in these descriptions to state the rivers upon which the particular fly has been proved to kill? We all know how frequently a good fly on one river is useless on another. Major Traherne's name is familiar on the Scotch and South of Ireland rivers, and no doubt his patterns have met with approval there. When any fly is referred to I should be glad to learn whether it has been fished in the West of Ireland—the Moy, for instance. "Juno" appears to me just the fly for a calm, bright day, though on the river named kingfisher and jungle-fowl is not favoured.—I am, &c.,

G. D.

York.

FLIES WITH HOOKS OF A LIKE COLOUR.

SIR,—In your article, in last week's GAZETTE, on "Whit Monday's Trout Fishing in the Darenth," you say, "when you use a fly with light wing and light body, the fish are less likely to notice a hook which harmonises in colour with the fly than one of a startling black or blue description, as commonly used. . . . If our flymakers would make the colour of the hook harmonise with the colour of the fly, &c., anglers would get heavier baskets."

If you will kindly refer to a letter of mine published in the FISHING GAZETTE of November 17th, 1883, you will find the following, bearing upon the substance of your foregoing remarks. Describing some flies submitted for your inspection, I said, "I have added what I think will be received by most fishermen as an improvement: that is, I have enamelled the hooks in colours to suit the flies. What can be more unnatural than a black hook hanging from the tail of a white moth? I make up the white moth on a white enamelled, rust-proof hook, the bluebottle on a similar hook in blue, red with red, and so on with the various colours" (as specimens enclosed), and in this manner our flies are regularly made. I can well understand, with the quantity of printed matter constantly passing under your notice, how this, in the mean time, may have escaped your memory. Trusting you will give this a corner,—I am, &c.,

Redditch, June 11.

WILLIAM GUISE.

[We had quite forgotten these remarks of Mr. Guise, though his letter reminds us that when he called at our office we had a conversation on the subject. It was when using some of Judson's gold and silver paint on some articles in the case of tackle, &c., we sent to the Berlin Fisheries Exhibition, in 1880, that the idea of colouring the hooks to suit the fly first occurred to us. The "Palmer" Mr. Guise sends is a beauty. We should like to see his green and red hooks.—ED.]

PERCH AND ROACH HATCHING FOR THE THAMES.

SIR,—I am pleased to tell you that (acting on the advice you so kindly gave us) we obtained five buckets of perch spawn, the whole of which (with few exceptions) were hatched in our Lund boxes and turned into the Thames.

We also tried roach spawn in a like manner with good results.

I am thinking of coming to town on the 18th for a day or perhaps two. I do not know whether you have ever seen roach two or three days old. If not, I should be pleased to bring up some for you. These I hatched in a glass pickle jar (after keeping the spawn fourteen days) and they are doing well—feeding on grated biscuits freely. As I have plenty of them, you are quite welcome to some if you will drop me a line.—I am, &c.,

W. KELSON.

[We should like to see them.—ED.]

FARLOW'S 14-FOOT ROD.—RED WAX, &c.

SIR,—Can you or some reader kindly give me a recipe for making red wax? I was pleased to see you speak highly, in your interesting account of trout fishing on the Darenth, of Farlow's 14-foot trout rod. I have one, and it is certainly *Mr.* I have used it constantly for over five years, and it is as good now as on the day it came out of his shop.

You are awfully hard on muffs in your letter; surely you do not advocate braggadocio in fishermen?—I am, &c.,

M. L. H.

Monmouth.

[We had no intention in the least to be "hard on muffs," and are always willing to help beginners, and have done so in hundreds of cases. All we wished to point out was that it was a mistake to think that you are more likely to get permission to fish by stating you are "Not likely to catch any," when you write for permission.—ED.]

THE CARMICHAEL PORTABLE BOOT-TREE.—WADERS.—GILDED HOOKS, &c.

SIR,—I want to ask if any of your readers have tried the "Carmichael Portable Boot-tree" for fishing boots—that is, for boots coming up to the knee or lower. Have they found them sufficient to keep the folds about the ankles perfectly stretched? Also has anyone given a sufficiently-extended trial to the waders with the brown leather feet attached instead of brogues to say if they are free from objections?

A correspondent was inquiring a week or two since about sucking noises made by fish. I think he must have referred to the sound commonly made by eels. By the bye, in your article this week on fishing in Kent you speak of gilding hooks to avoid the black or blue colour. I imagine you cannot have seen the eyed hooks made of white metal like an ordinary pin, which I have always used. I inclose you one.—I am, &c.,

F.R.C.S.

P.S.—What does Mr. Kelson think of eyed hooks for salmon flies?

[Yes, we know the bronze colour of Mr. Hall's eyed hooks very well indeed, and so do the fish! It is a very good colour, and we always use it with eyed hooks, and often with hooks of other make.—ED.]

FISHING IN THE BLACK FOREST.

SIR,—Could you, or any readers of the GAZETTE, give me any information about fishing (especially trout-fishing) in the Black Forest, Germany? I notice that a similar question was asked last year by "Skin-the-Fish." Perhaps, if he sees my query, he would be able to give me some advice. I am going with a reading party of three or four men for a visit of about six weeks, during July and August, so we should desire a quiet and comfortable inn or lodgings, where the charges are reasonable, and where fishing and mountain walks, &c., can be obtained.

I should feel very grateful for any information: out rivers, quarters, flies, &c., &c. Is there any good English or German anglers' guide to the district?

—I am, &c.,

N. E. L.

Oxford, June 6,

SALMON & TROUT-FISHING

CHAS. FARLOW & Co.

191, STRAND, London, W.C.

MANUFACTURERS OF FIRST-CLASS RODS AND TACKLE,
SALMON AND TROUT FLIES, SUITABLE FOR
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Mahseer Tackle in Great Variety.

Makers of Split Cane Rods.

Improved Folding Trout Landing Nets.

(Very Light).

New Patent Lever Salmon Winch

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PRACTICAL ANGLER, FLY DRESSER, AND MANUFACTURER
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SILVER OR GILT.

Also Coloured, similar to the Devon Baits, &c.

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estimation in which they are held by the leading anglers of the day.

All Standard Flies ordered, or dressed correct to pattern, will be despatched by return of
post.

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[This Advertisement has been temporarily withdrawn owing to overpressure of
Whitsun business.]

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TACKLE CASES, ETC., ETC.

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printed, descriptive of the most sterlingly valuable appointments.

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These
Waters
are supplied

To the
Queen.

Table Waters

"Art, empire, earth itself, to change are doomed."—THE HERMIT.

EXCHANGE.

Things Wanted—to BUY, to SELL, or to EXCHANGE.

N.B.—We take no responsibility whatever in connection with advertisements inserted
in this or other parts of this paper; but beg our readers to expose any case of im-
position. The prices for inserting advertisements in this "EXCHANGE"
Column are 6d. per line for one, or 4d. per line for more than one insertion.
Address Manager, FISHING GAZETTE, 12 and 13, Fetter Lane, London, and send
stamps with the order, or the advertisement cannot be inserted.

WANTED.—Particulars and prices of Secondhand Books on Angling and Fish Culture.
Must be in good condition—Address Editor, FISHING GAZETTE, 12 and 13, Fetter Lane,
London, E.C.

FOR SALE.—Salmon rod, 16ft., check winch, with 60 yards of twisted hair line that
will lift 12 lb. dead weight, with 5 dozen salmon and trout flies, all in good condition.
Price 60s., to be seen at Mr. Day's, Fishing Line Dresser, 39, Overstone Road, Ham-
mersmith, W.

Superior Trout Flies, 8d. per dozen. See Editor's Notice, March 22nd, 1884. Special
terms to Fishing Tackle Houses. J. Palmer, Littleworth, Redditch.
The Pocket Fly Case, containing one dozen best Trout Flies, 1s., free.—Palmer, Red-
ditch.

Godalming Angling Society.—Wanted, stock fish, trout, bass, barbel; full particulars
required.—L. Norris, Godalming, Surrey.

Lawn Tennis, Racquet.—Central String; first-class maker; scarcely used, 16 oz., half
price. Z., FISHING GAZETTE Office. (Owner is obliged to dispose of it on account of
injury to wrist.)

WANTED.—The address of a Major, who is a great fisherman, who plays billiards,
and is deaf, short, and stout; any expense will be paid. Address (by letter only) Hackle,
care of Editor.

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RIVER REPORTS.

TIME OF HIGH WATER IN THE THAMES.

To find the time of high water in the Thames at any of the following places,
to the time of high water at London Bridge (given below).

	30 minutes for Chelsea.
40	" Putney.
45	" Hammersmith.
50	" Barnes.
55	" Kew.
75	" Richmond.
80	" Twickenham.
85	" Teddington.

Example:—If it is high water at 2 o'clock at London Bridge, it will be high
water at Teddington about 3.25, or eighty-five minutes later; but it must be
remembered that a strong wind accelerates or retards the tide very much.

For TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.

	Morning.	Afternoon.
Saturday, June 14	5.9	5.28
Sunday, " 15	5.50	6.12
Monday, " 16	6.38	7.2
Tuesday, " 17	7.30	7.58
Wednesday, " 18	8.31	9.6
Thursday, " 19	9.42	10.15
Friday, " 20	10.47	11.20

General coarse fish angling commences June 16.

THE LOWER THAMES.

Anglers will bear in mind the general angling season commences on Monday
next, the 16th of June, as so many are under the impression it begins on the
15th. The prospects of the season are unquestionably good. Both the roach
and bream have been seen priming, and the barbel are beginning to jump.
In a letter from James Haslett, of Docket Point, he says that he and his son
are both engaged for "the opening day" for barbel and bream, and he believes

both those fish will respond. John Johnson, sen., of Kingston, gives it as his opinion the coarse fish are well on the move, and adds, "The perch are beginning to chase their prey on the shores, and now and then a good fish out wide." The late heavy rains have so upset the condition of the river that the angling for trout has scarcely been attempted, and there is certainly no news as to anything having been done. There is an improvement in the weather, and before the week is out some trout are more than likely to be taken, especially as the trout anglers will like to have another turn before the general fishing begins. When the coarse fishing commences we shall hear of trout taking the lobworm in barbel-fishing, and many will come to an inglorious end in that way; but it cannot be helped, and no barbel angler will care to put them back again.—B.

UPPER THAMES.

Late rains have put quite a fresh of coloured water into the bed of the river; this is, however, now abating, and fair sport will assuredly follow a cleansing out of the *débris* and stale water. A jack of $4\frac{1}{2}$ lb. has been had with an alder fly in the Marlow waters by Mr. Faulkner. Wind sou'h-west; weather superb.—MARLOW BUZZ.

Datchet.

The late rain has improved the prospects of the opening season, as it certainly set the trout on the go. With a patron, on the afternoon of the 6th, got a fish in splendid condition, 5 lb.; but very little fishing has been done for them this week, or there must have been some fine fish taken provided the angler was out when the water was rising, if only a little. On the 10th, mid-day, I saw such a sight not far from here as is not seen every day—nine or ten fish feeding all about the same time. The water began to drop: it was soon over. Hope in my next to be able to report one or two of them.—G. LUMSDEN.

Sonning.

There has been no fishing about here for some time; you can see a trout now and again move, the last one that was caught was by Mr. Huggett, which was placed back as it did not weigh 2 lb. This time of year we used to see scores of roach at the point of the Island opposite my house: for the last two years I have not seen any. I have asked several; they can't understand it. I am afraid the fishing will not open very lively.—W. HULL.

Ancholme District.

Some good sport has again been had at the river head amongst the pike and roach. The eels, too, have begun to run and take well in the evenings. The Rev. A. M. Platt and Mr. Dexter had fair sport at Crosby Lake, on the 6th inst. The trout put therein last season are beginning to rise nicely at the fly, but they are not yet sufficiently grown to be taken. I caught four trout in a local beck on Saturday last, and Dr. Bowstead had a nice one, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ lb., on Monday.—THOMAS FORD, Caistor.

Dee (Aberdeenshire).

In the absence of anything like sufficient water, angling last week, as can be imagined, proved rather poor. Seldom at this season have we seen the river so low. Despite this state of matters, anglers on several of the reaches succeeded during the earlier days of the present week in landing two or three fish a day. The popham, wasp, and blue doctor are the deadliest during the day, and the heron in the evening, sizes of the former No. 6 and 7, of the latter, No. 4 and 5—the small, single; the large, double irons. Net-fishing of late has not been very remunerative. Shots have been much below the average at this period of the year. Only about fifty salmon, sixty grilse, and thirty trout were got in the river nets within the past six days. We learn that, owing to the overcrowded state of the pools, the fungoid disease is manifesting itself in the Braemar, Ballater, and Aboyne districts rather more than is desirable. The Kincardine O'Neil, Banchoy, and Park districts are comparatively free, but in these waters the fish are much scarcer. Appearances indicate a change, and if a change comes grilse will be crowding the river in a few days. We could almost put up with continuous rain for three or four days, provided it does not begin too violently. Reports to hand appended:—Ballater district—Report of Mr. George Smith, tackle maker, Invercauld Arms Hotel Water—S. H. Nicolls, Esq., Tuesday, one fish, 5 lb.; Wednesday, one fish, 11 lb.; Thursday, one fish, 7 lb.; Friday, one fish, 8 lb.; Saturday, two fish, 8 and 9 lb.; Monday, three fish, 8, 8, and 9 lb.; Monday, Mr. Simmonds, one fish, 9 lb. Monalrie Water—Capt. Napier, Wednesday, one fish, 10 lb.; Lieut. Gordon, Monday, one fish. Banchoy District—V. B. Keith, Esq., one fish; Mr. George Bremner, one fish, and two sea trout; D. Rae, two fish; C. Wollaston, Esq., Kineskie, one fish, 11 lb.; W. Farnell-Watson, Esq., one fish, 10 lb., on Monday. Aboyne Castle Water—Mr. Nicolls, Saturday, two salmon, 8 and 11 lb. Aboyne Hotel Water, Monday, James Milne, one salmon, 9 lb.; Thursday, Jas. Finlayson, one salmon, 10 lb. Huntly Lodge Water—Col. Keen, Wednesday, one salmon, 12 lb.; Friday, one salmon, 14 lb. A few salmon are daily being landed on the Balmoral Private Fishery when Her Majesty's party are out. The Invercauld Private Fishery is still yielding very good sport when Mr. Wordie and his party go fishing. The Clunie fly is a great killer in the upper reaches of the Dee. The *Journal* of 11th records the following takes on the Glentanar Water last week: W. Cunliffe Brooks, Esq., M.P., and party, Monday, six salmon, 6 to 18 lb.; Tuesday, six fish, 3 to 19 lb.; Wednesday, three fish, 9, 11, and 13 lb.; Thursday, seven fish, 8 to 18 lb.; Friday, four salmon, 7 to 12 lb. On the Cambus O'May Water a few salmon, 7 to 13 lb., were landed during the week.—W. M.

Exe (Exeter).

Water very low now, and few catches worth recording, with the exception of some nice trout by Mr. Radford and others in the Creedy and Upper Exe respectively. Minnow, black gnat, and red Palmer doing most execution.

Some fair trout fishing has been had since my last report. At Exwick, Mr. Saunders caught a nice trout over 2 lb., and Mr. Chamberlain one with red Palmer—both in Exwick water. Mr. Radford also had some nice ones with small spinning minnow in the Stickles, above Cowley Bridge. Last night at the Bonhay Weir, a Great-Western porter took four trout with small red spinner. Water very low, and rain badly wanted.—J. A. KELLY.

Exe (Tiverton).

Catlin, when describing the custom of some of the North American Indian tribes, speaks of an extremely useful personage among them—the Rainmaker. It is a pity we have not an official of that sort—one well up to his work—in

Tiverton, where fishing for salmon particularly, and for trout generally, is at a standstill for want of water. The Exe seems now reduced to its lowest ebb; the bed of the river is slimy from weed and deposits. It is absolutely useless attempting to fish for salmon, and the trout rise most capriciously, sometimes refusing every fly that is offered them, and confining themselves exclusively to the minute midges that in the evening make their appearance in clouds. This they did on most of the pools on Tuesday night. The insect they were taking was a cream-coloured little creature about the size of the head of an ordinary pin, its extreme diminutiveness making it very difficult to dress one like it. After incessant casting right in the midst of rising fish, I managed to get a brace and a half of decent trout, all of which were gorged with the white midge, and these I caught with a very small pale dun, used "dry." I have often observed that when trout go in for midging, and will have nothing to do with the ordinary flies, rain is not far distant; such was the case on Tuesday night, for on Wednesday we had one or two gentle showers, too brief, however, to affect the river in the slightest degree, or the appetite of the fish, which are very likely to prefer a light diet of midges to anything more substantial until a decided change in the water has taken place. I have always found it very difficult when fish are midging to make anything like a respectable basket. The insects on which they are feeding are so small that, in the first place, it is hard to identify them, there being so many varieties on the water, and the trout probably confining themselves to one sort; and again, it is much harder to dress an imitation successfully. On Wednesday morning I tried a couple of hooks with materials that seemed to give a fair imitation—body, white quill; legs and wings, a small white hackle, only three turns, using, of course, the smallest midge hooks, and afterwards hooked two or three fish with them. Few trout, however, were showing, as the rise of this midge takes place in the evening principally.—R. A.

Lakes of Killarney.

Weather very fine here at present. The salmon fishing not good, as the River Laune is very low. Scarcely any salmon can escape the nets on the tidal waters. The trout fishing is splendid at present. Mr. Walmsley (of Liverpool) and son, R. Walmsley, got for six days 23 dozen of splendid trout—Tim McCarthy their fisherman; Captain Jorse, 15 dozen trout; Daniel Twomey, 12 dozen trout; Michael Doona, 8 dozen on three days—a few hours each day; Thade Shine, 8 dozen; Thomas Mullone, 9 dozen; George Bastoke, 10 dozen; Daniel Hayse, 7 dozen; Mr. J. D. Curtayne, 11 dozen—one $3\frac{1}{2}$ lb.; Denis Horgan, 5 dozen; George Maberly, 3 dozen of splendid trout on Friday; D. F. Mulligan, 2 peal and 7 dozen trout—one of $2\frac{1}{2}$ lb.; James Foley, one peal of 7 lb. with a trout fly, and 2 dozen trout on the 8th; Mr. Pickup got 3 salmon for the past week; Mr. John Ross, a few more; Messrs. Lords, 7 salmon and peal for the last week. The trout are feeding on the green drake we'll. The artificial one has done well also. The May flies—the best taking flies—are orange grouse, green and yellow grouse. Hare's ear and olive mixed with black, hackle, stained wing, also the alder, is killing, but it is rising much more than it is killing.—TIM MCCARTHY, fisherman.

Lea (Tottenham).

The above waters opened on Monday, June 2, for general angling (pike excepted), and a great many availed themselves of the opportunity for a few hours' angling. Some very good catches were had, the majority being captured by the fly, Messrs. Bennett, Bell, and many others being favoured for their attention by some nice dace and a few chub. Amongst the bottom-fishers, Mr. Herbert headed the list, he having the pleasure of such a half-hour's amusement in capturing a carp "whose weight was 11 lb. 8 oz.," that was worth going a hundred miles to witness. It has been forwarded to Mr. Barrett for preservation, and will furnish another specimen of the above waters by the before-mentioned angler, and many others well worth a visit to see, especially as this water is so near London and so easy of access.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

Lodden.

Since our opening day (May 1st) we have done nothing worth reporting. There are plenty of fish, and fine ones, too; but the weather has been so very cold, with north and east winds, they would not look at the fly at all. The weather now is somewhat changeable, and should we get the wind to the southward, sport must be good. We have had three days' stock fishing, by permission, some few miles from here, the result being:—First day, 84; second day, 81; third day, 61; in all, 226 fish (trout); 50 of them averaged $1\frac{1}{4}$ lb. each. Rainfall during the present month, 3 inches, against 7-10ths of an inch for the whole of May.—E. GOSDEN.

Lugg and Arrow.

Both these streams still keep in good fishing order, being clear, but have risen slightly since last week, and the drop of nice rain which we have had has done a great deal of good. Angling in this part has been brisk the last few days, and some good fish have been taken. The fish of these streams are sporting well at the caddow and downhill, which are the best killers at present. A gent on Friday visited the Lugg with the caddow and downhill, and landed a good basket of very fine trout. The Arrow was tried the same day, and a gentleman had some capital sport with the caddow, landing some dozen very nice trout, some scaling 1 lb. each. On Saturday the wind was blowing very cold, but the downhill flies were on the water in good numbers, and the fish were taking them freely. A gentleman visited the Arrow with some, and landed a very nice lot of trout. A few very nice trout were landed in the Lugg with the downhill the same day. Some capital sport was had in the Arrow on Monday with the caddow, and some very good fish were landed. A few nice trout were landed in the Lugg. A nice lot of trout were taken in the Lugg on Tuesday with the caddow. Fishing in the Arrow the same day quiet. The Pinsley is in good fishing order. This week the fish are rising better at the caddow than they have for some time. At the beginning of the week an old angler with the caddow landed a splendid basket of trout, and on Wednesday a few very good trout were taken above the town. A few nice fish have been landed in the Eardisland water. Little doing in the Ivington quarter. A few fine fish have been taken in the Shobden district.—GWYNNE.

Oulton Broad and Dyke (Lowestoft).

The alteration in the wind is likely to prove a great benefit to the fishing here. At present there are scarcely any London fishermen down. The only notable instance (if you should not already have heard of it) is a catch of bream by a Dr. Dixon, of London, which consisted of thirteen fish, averaging 3 lb., the two largest being 4 lb. 2 oz. each. The weather here is charming, and must bring the fishermen out.

Ouse (Huntingdon).

This water is still in good condition for fishing, which will commence on

Monday next. The rain which has fallen has caused an improvement, which has refreshed the water, and the weeds having been cut, will afford every chance for anglers. Great many fine fish are seen near the surface of the water, owing to the bright weather, and if the weather continues, some chub may be taken with a fly, and likewise some good roach. Gentles or red worm may be used for roach.—H. ROUPE.

Severn (Kidderminster).

There is not much news at present as regards takes of fish. Several anglers have been out, but have failed in securing good baskets. Although there has been a quantity of rain, the river remains as clear as ever. The same flies still on the water, the only addition is the orl fly and fern shell, as it is termed here. I and a friend were out on the 6th inst. fishing a brook, but, owing to the fine weather, there was but little water in the brook, but we succeeded in taking nine brace of trout in three hours, the fish taking the caddow greedily whenever we could get to the water-side without being seen. Our society (the United Brothers') have joined the Birmingham Amalgamation, the united clubs being upwards of 1,200 strong, and it is only by this unity that we can retain our privilege tickets, so much fraud having been practised that the railway officials were going to withdraw that best of all boons to anglers, cheap travelling.—E. EARP, hon. sec.
[We are much obliged to Mr. Earp.—ED.]

Severn (Shrewsbury).

The rain we recently had improved the fishing for a day or two, but the ground, having been so parched up, seemed to suck it all in like a sponge, so that the river was little changed in height or colour. It is now very low and clear again, so that I have not heard of any great exploits in the Severn, saving that Mr. Harwood had another day up the river, his old route, and took ten brace of chub, several ranging from 1 lb. to 1½ lb., and one brace of trout. A friend of Vandyke, "March Brown," one of your correspondents, was at a brook fly-fishing, and landed twenty-eight trout, and a gentleman with him took eighteen. The flies used were May fly as leader and hazel for dropper. A bottom fisher caught a nice perch of 1½ lb. in the Severn. I was at a brook myself on Wednesday, and on reaching its banks found the water so low and clear that my best hopes were for a brace or two. However, I plodded on, and before 4 p.m. landed forty-five trout, all of a fair size and in good condition; so that, contrary to my expectations, I had a very fair day's sport. I used one fly only—a red spinner, made by myself about 11 p.m. the night before—and took about thirty with it, after which the gut broke close to the fly, and, not having another of the same sort in my book, had to resort to other flies; but as the trout did not seem to care about them I left off, and came home early with the heaviest basket of trout I have had this year. Although I quite agree with preserving the river and the commendable efforts made in this direction by the Shrewsbury Angling Club, I cannot but express disapproval at an attempt to stop taking minnows for bait with a net. It is absurd trying to go beyond the last Act of Parliament and endeavour to compel anglers to take minnows with rod and line only. One of the most prominent advocates of this new plan had a discussion with me about it one day, during which he stated he had a tank full of them at home, and which, upon being pressed, he admitted had been taken with a net. Theory is a poor thing if not practical.—SEVERN GRAYLING.

Teme (Ludlow).

The rain has fallen at last, and the various streams around this district are greatly benefitted by it. A wonderful change has taken place in fields and gardens, which sadly wanted rain. Large numbers of anglers this week have paid almost daily visits to their favourite waters. I heard of about 100 lb. weight of trout being caught one night last week with the net in the Teme, and the mouth of the Corve; some of them were very fine fish. On Friday, in the Ashford waters, Mr. Ralli's keeper caught eleven fine trout with the blue dun, all fine fish. The same day Mr. D. Crundall visited Oakley Park waters and landed eight fine fish with the caddow. Continuing to fish, he hooked seven good trout, but every one got off the hook. Upon an examination of the tackle he discovered that the escape of the fish was owing to the point of his hook having been broken off. Two gentlemen, fishing up the Ony, near the village of Newtown (Craven Arms), with the caddow and natural fly caught nine trout, while Dr. Treddenick, who was fishing in the same water, caught two. Some few trout were caught on Monday and Tuesday between Bromfield Bridge and Onibury, with the caddow and canon, and ten on Wednesday, by a London gentleman. There has been some good sport up the Clun waters; one gent caught nine fish on Saturday, and another landed seven on Monday with caddow and blue dun. A gentleman visited Felton waters up the Corve on Saturday evening after the rain had somewhat abated, and very quickly landed eight very nice trout. A few fish have been caught in the Letwyche, but not of much size. The following have visited the waters here:—Lord and Lady Breadalbane and party, Sir R. Webby, F. H. Whympier, Esq. (Carlton Club), Rev. L. O. Rocke, Chillham, and R. W. D. Harley, Esq., Brampton Brian Hall. The waters are bright and low, but though the May-fly is not well on, the above party fished with it, but had middling luck, though one rod secured nine and a half brace of good trout of fair size. On Monday next minnow fishing commences in this district. The waters are all in splendid condition.—S. LUDLOW.

Teme (Tenbury).

This water is still in good fishing order, being clear, but a little higher than last week, owing to the very sharp storm with which this district was visited at the latter end of last week. The fish still bite well at the fly, and several very nice lots of fish have been taken. The best flies on the water at present is the caddow, blue dun, and downhill. On Friday a gentleman fishing below the town with the caddow, took a very nice dish of fine trout averaging from ½ lb. each. The same day above the Easton Court a nice lot of fish were taken with the fly. On Saturday the fishing was slightly interrupted by some sharp showers of rain; one gentleman fishing with the caddow took a very nice lot of fish, and a few very good trout were taken with the maggot above the bridge. The sun shining brightly on Monday, the fish were sporting well at the fly. A gentleman fishing near the town with the caddow and down hill, landed some very good trout, some scaling ¾ lb. each. Above the Little Hereford Bridge, some very good trout were taken with the caddow the same day. Fishing near the town on Tuesday, a gentleman with the fly landed some fair sized fish. On Wednesday morning a gentleman fished the water down with the blue dun and downhill, and succeeded in landing a very nice basket of fine trout. The Kyre and Rea are still in good fishing order, and all the better for the rain, which has made the fish bite better. The fish are now rising at the caddow and downhill. A few good fish were taken in the Kyre above the town at the beginning of this week with the caddow. In the Rea on

Monday some nice samples of trout were landed with the downhill. The Ledwyche is in good fishing order, and the fish are rising well at the fly, but few fish have been taken this week.—WORCESTER.

The Test.

Water still very low, May fly coming up thinly. Wind perfect, but fish don't seem to care to rise. Last week on the Wherwell Priory Water 5½ brace were taken. That is nothing on water that has yielded a hundred weight a day. The largest fish was 4½ lb., and that I regret to say was taken by very good fisherman on that abominable fly or minnow the Alexandra. On Thursday the May fly was up at Newton Stacy early. From 11 to 11.30, Mr. Marryat killed two brace, over 2 lb. apiece, and only one other fish all day. They were terribly shy, and would not bear the gut over them, though he was throwing (which I have never seen done before) twenty-eight yards of line on a single-handed rod. Yesterday there was plenty of fly on, but few fish taking. To-day is warm, and after the little rain last night we ought to have some sport. I am just off to try my luck on the Priory Water.—HAMPSHIRE.

Trent.

Water reported in good order for general fishing, and the fish well through the spawning operations. A strong contingent of the angling fraternity will be sure to patronise the river on the opening day. The result I will let you know in your next issue. I should recommend can bait as the best bait to use for bottom fishing; ground baiting with gentles.—JAMES GREGORY.

Walton.

The water here is in splendid condition for all kinds of fishing; the prospects for the opening of the season, on Monday, 16th, are very good, and there is abundance of fish. Some good trout have lately been taken in the neighbourhood, and on Monday evening two very large fish were seen rising opposite the Swan Hotel landing stage; one was on Tuesday hooked with a minnow by a gentleman, who, however, lost him. Several large pike have lately been seen in the backwater below Walton Bridge. Walton is worth a visit, being one of the best fishing stations on the Thames for large trout, pike, chub, heavy bream, barbel, and roach. I am convinced Thames anglers neglect the fly too much for trout. There is no doubt if it were now generally employed some large fish would be taken in the evening. The opening of the Swan Hotel, which is situated on the river, where boats, baits, and tackle can readily be obtained, is a great convenience to anglers, and gives great satisfaction to visitors in this part.—GOLDFINCH.

Wharfe (Yorkshire).

There has been a fair amount of rain since my last report, but the ground was so parched that it had little or no effect on the river. From 8.30 to 9.30 in the evening is the best time at present for fly fishing. With a bracken clock dressed on a midge hook, I killed four nice fish on Tuesday evening in less than half an hour. On Monday a Bradford angler had thirteen fish (mixed) with fly, but the river was in splendid order on that day. A real good flood would do a lot of good, as the bottom of the river is full of weed and filth, which wants clearing out. Eels are beginning to bite freely, and I can assure my readers that Wharfe eels are worth cooking—very different from their brethren of pond origin.—FRANCIS M. WALBRAN.

Welland, Deeping (St. James).

The river is now in fine condition for coarse fishing, and teems with fish—pike in abundance, from 3 to 6 lb. weight. Roach are very fine, up to 1½ lb. each. Bleak and dace will take the fly everywhere. Perch large and fine; chub very fine; eels in any quantity. The water is from 2 to 6 feet deep, and good gravel bottom. Small red worm the best bottom bait.—A. C. ELLIOTT.

Whitadder.

Last week Mr. W. J. Cummins, of Bishop Auckland, and three other gentlemen killed upwards of six hundred trout on the upper waters of the Whitadder, the bulk of the trout falling to the natural stone fly, although one of the party made some good takes with the artificial red spinner, which is heavy on the Whitadder at the present time. The water was exceedingly low and clear.

Yare (Norwich).

One genuine catch of fine roach was had the other day at Brundall, by a well-known angler, who is accustomed to analyse waters, and I can assure you, Mr. Editor, that, from the accounts which have reached me during the past week, one need be very particular in the choice of a spot for fishing, as there have been decidedly more blanks than prizes; the fish have not yet recovered from the effects of spawning, and hence the absence of sport. Each week forward now should be marked by succeeding improvements until September, which, for myself, is the choice month of the year for roach angling, although July, August, September, and even October, if the weather holds fine, are all excellent months for general bottom fishing on this river; of course, the earlier months are more likely to be pleasant to visitors from a distance, who cannot pick and choose their days, as we local men can. Prospect good. I hear of some fine bream being caught at Fritton Decoy, up to 4 lb. The members of the Champion Angling Society hold their first outing at this place to-morrow (Thursday), and, as I am to be one of the party, I trust to send you a good account of their doings for next week's issue. Fritton Decoy is easily reached from either Yarmouth or Lowestoft, and ought not to be missed by piscators visiting the eastern counties.—ROBERT MOLL.

SCOTCH NOTES.

THE TAY.—On the Grantully Castle Water on Saturday last, Mr. M'Intosh, keeper, one salmon, 13 lb.

LOCH LEVEN.—The Kinross-shire Club held their second competition for the season last Thursday week. The club had ten boats engaged, with twenty-nine competitors, who reported a total catch of 135 trout, weighing 99 lb. 7½ oz., the prizes being gained as follows: first, Mr. P. D. Malloch, Perth, fifteen trout, 15 lb.; second, Mr. Gardiner, Cowdenbeath, fifteen, 8 lb. 10½ oz.; third, Mr. W. B. Thomson, Perth, nine, 8 lb. 7 oz.; fourth, Mr. Thomson, Cowdenbeath, thirteen, 8 lb. 6 oz. The two heaviest trout weighed 3 lb. 6 oz., and were killed by Mr. Malloch.

CALLANDER.—Last Thursday week the third angling competition for the season of the Callander Angling Club took place on Loch Katrine. Several boats were out, two anglers in each boat. The

water was smooth, and there was no wind, being unfavourable conditions for heavy baskets. Notwithstanding, however, a considerable number of good trout were landed. The following is the prize list; first prize, Mr. Buchanan, Ruinacraig; second prize, Mr. James Anderson, Kilmahog; third prize, Mr. Peter M'Diarmid, Callander; fourth prize, Mr. James Dickson, Stronvar; fifth prize, Mr. Richard Lister, Callander. Special prize—a silver medal given by Mr. M'Niven, Innishewan, Killin, for two heaviest baskets on Loch Katrine—won by Mr. R. Lister. A salmon reel and line, for the greatest number of trout caught during the whole season, given by Mr. Robertson, Glasgow, won by Mr. Walter M'Alpine; also a special prize for the heaviest trout, given by Mrs. Duncan, of the M'Grigor Hotel, won by Mr. James Anderson, Kilmahog. We may add that Mr. Peter M'Diarmid's basket of trout (including a fish of 1½ lb. weight) was sent as a present to Lord Provost M'Onie, Glasgow, a native of the village of Gartmore, in this vicinity.

THE TUMMEL.—The Tummel for some time past has been too small and clear for successful angling, but the rain on Saturday last having put the river into better angling ply, Mr. Purdie's keeper tried the Bonskeid water in the evening, and succeeded in capturing a fine salmon of 18½ lb.

LOCH RANNOCH.—The weather on Saturday was more soft and balmy than the former days of the week. There was thunder in the afternoon, and a fine rain fell. Anglers here had very encouraging sport. Mr. Ocks, from the Macdonald Arms Hotel, fished the river and procured a basket weighing 13 lb. The weight of the trout ranged from ¼ lb. to 1 lb. Mr. F. Catesby Holland was also out in the afternoon on the river. He captured six trout, one of which weighed over 1 lb. Mr. Ellis, London, also from the Macdonald Arms Hotel, and three other gentlemen, were out on the loch and had good baskets.

LOCH RANNOCH.—I have just received a trout for preservation weighing 7½ lb.; it is one of the best shaped I have seen for some time. It measured 24 inches in length, and 15½ inches in girth; it was killed by J. O. Sullivan, on Loch Rannoch. On Tuesday a beautiful salmon was caught on the Tay at Kinfauns, a little below Perth; it weighed sixty pounds. Very little fishing on the rivers, they are so low. The lochs are all fishing well.

AN ANGLING MATCH AT SHEPPERTON.

MR. SPRECKLEY is arranging for a party of gentlemen to fish at Shepperton on Monday next—two in a punt. The conditions are these:—Each gentleman pays 5s. to form a sweepstakes. The punts are entitled to 8s. for the day, that is 4s. for each of the anglers. There is to be a light lunch at the Lincoln Arms Hotel at 10.30, and a cold 3s. 6d. dinner in the evening at six o'clock. As twenty gentlemen are expected, the sweepstakes will make a fund of £5. This is to be divided amongst the fishermen in sums of from 5s. up to £1, according to the show of fish. It is done to benefit the fishermen and to give the gentlemen a taste for angling, as the greater part are not what may be called practical.

CAPTURE OF A LARGE SEVERN SALMON.

JUST below Wroxeter, in the river Severn, at the end of last week, Mr. Parr succeeded in capturing one of the largest salmon that has ever been caught in the Shrewsbury district. The monster fish weighed no less than 50½ lb. The fish was 4 feet 2 inches in length, and 11½ inches in depth, whilst its girth was 3 feet 3 inches. It was in capital condition, though, of course, it must have been hatched several years ago. It was conveyed to Mrs. Convey's shop, Mardol Head, Shrewsbury, and placed on view; and on Friday the shop was almost besieged with persons anxious to inspect the monster from the Severn.

CLUB REPORTS.

ANCHOR AND HOPE ANGLING SOCIETY.

The opening match of the season of the above club will take place on July 6th, for three valuable prizes. Members are requested to attend on Wednesday, June 18th inst., to settle where and how it shall be fished.—D. DAVIS, sec.

ANGLERS' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

Since my last report, I beg to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of 8s. 10d. donation from the Eustonian Society.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

BERESFORD ANGLING SOCIETY.

Our member, Mr. Sames, had two fine trout on the 8th inst. and one the week before. The coming season will be upon us in a few days, and we of the Beresford Angling Society are thinking of seriously considering whether or not an angling society can be conducted without having a prize list as the principal inducement to belong to it. We believe that our funds can be devoted to a more satisfactory object, and that there must be many gentlemen who would join a society for the love of the sport and the social pleasures connected with it, apart from the mere chance of winning a prize or two. If there are any readers of your paper who are of this way of thinking, let them communicate with our secretary, at the Grove House Tavern, Camberwell Grove, S.E. Meeting nights, Thursdays, at nine o'clock.—E. C. ELLIS, chairman.

BOSTONIAN ANGLING SOCIETY.

The annual supper of the above society took place at the club house, Dalby Tavern, Dalby Street, Prince of Wales's Road, N.W., on Thursday, May 29. Our old and esteemed member, Mr. H. A. Vincent, secretary of the Watford

Piscators, presided, assisted by Mr. J. Fitch, of the Great Northern Brothers. After the usual loyal toasts, Mr. Vincent said it gave him great pleasure to propose the health of our new host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. Woodcock. He was glad to find we had got the right man in the right place for landlord. He is the man we ought to have had here when the club was stronger; but no doubt now, with such a treasurer, we shall soon increase our members. The way the supper was served spoke for itself. It always was a pleasure to him to come amongst his old brother members, but living at Watford, he could come as often as he would like; but now we have such a jolly host he would come more often. Mr. Woodcock, in responding, said it was very gratifying to him and his wife to know they had given satisfaction to all, and thanked them for the kind way in which they drank his health. Considering he had only known us a few weeks, he felt sure when he knew more about us and our pleasure he would be very pleased to go fishing with us. He always thought anglers were a surly class of men, but now he had come amongst them he found they were jolly fellows. He then proceeded to distribute the prizes (which were too numerous to mention) to the successful members, with a word of encouragement to each, and opened the prize list for the coming season with one-and-a-half guineas; Mr. Jamieson following with two guineas; Mr. Jennings one-and-a-half guineas; Mr. Vincent, Mr. August, Mr. Fitch, and members soon brought the list to over twenty-five guineas. During the evening we had some good harmony, the following gentlemen contributing:—Messrs. Wagner, Constable, Vincent, Grist, Fitch, Elton, and several others. Mr. Barr's band played some good selections. We had a good muster of visitors, the North-Western showing up in good force, also the Little Independents, Great Northern Brothers, Phoenix, Hampstead, and Independent Brothers.—J. JENNINGS.

GOLDEN BARBEL.

The annual supper of this society will take place on the 24th, at Mr. Lerner's, the York Minster, Foley Street, Portland Road. Mr. J. Green will preside, assisted by Mr. J. Jones. Full information to be had of the secretary, Mr. J. Roach, or of the above.—PIXIE.

GOOD INTENT ANGLING SOCIETY.

There was a return visit paid to this club on the 9th inst., and I beg to return my best thanks to all those friends for their company. There was a very full attendance of members on the 10th inst., the secretary giving a full report of the New Amalgamation of the East and West associations, which was well received. There was a circular read, coming from the Central Association. The members of this club most strongly condemn the action taken by the Central Association, and believe angling societies will not be led away by their statements. The members fish for ten valuable prizes at Ware, the first Sunday. Those members desiring their privilege tickets before Tuesday next, can have them on Saturday evening next, after 8 o'clock at the club house.—R. MURPHY.

GREAT YARMOUTH PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

At the meeting held 'on Tuesday evening some good reports were made of takes during the week, both by the president and Mr. Hannant. On the question of prizes for the season being brought forward by the secretary, the president, vice-president, chairman, and six other members offered suitable prizes, and what the society will be able to set aside, directly this year's subscription tickets are taken up, will amount to at least one contest per month until the autumn. At the head of the room, on Tuesday, the secretary had some twenty-four globes of fish of many hues and colours on show; and a pretty sight it was when the gas shone on a mirror behind, reflecting back again to the globes with their lively tribes. Some new members were proposed and duly accepted. The president, at the end, proposed a vote of thanks to the secretary, which was seconded by the vice-chairman, and carried unanimously. On this day, Wednesday, I have heard of some fine large roach coming in from the Bure, by Acle. I cannot give the weight, as they are not yet here.—J. LARK.

GRESHAM ANGLING SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of the above Society was held at the Masons' Hall Tavern, Masons' Avenue, Basinghall Street, on Tuesday evening. Mr. Bates (Hon. Treasurer) presided, and there was a larger attendance of members. The chairman pointed out that the postponement of the annual meeting to that evening was in consequence of the first Tuesday in June being Whit-Tuesday. The minutes of the last meeting were then read and confirmed. Letters were read from the new Anglers' Association announcing its first meeting and requesting early application for privilege tickets, and from the Central Association to the effect that they had not amalgamated. Several of the delegates who were present, including Messrs. Crumplen, Bentley, Harding, Field, and Capt. Alfred, explained the amalgamation scheme, and it was ultimately decided, on the motion of Captain Alfred, seconded by Mr. Chambers, to take no action in the matter, but to instruct the secretary to procure the Privilege Tickets from whichever association each member desired. A letter was also read from the Fisheries Preservation Society inviting the attendance of the secretary and one member to a conference to be held on the 18th inst. at twelve o'clock, with reference to the practice of netting in fresh water. Mr. Bates was unanimously requested to attend on behalf of the society. Mr. E. J. Powell was duly elected a member of the society. The chairman having reminded the members that the first competition of the season (for gudgeon) would take place on Tuesday evening next, called upon the secretary to read the annual report and statement of accounts. The report, which was then read, after expressing the pleasure the committee were afforded in being able to congratulate the members upon the continued prosperity and present healthy condition of the society, gave an admirable résumé of the principal events of the year, among which may be mentioned the acquisition of the Alesford Water, the award of a silver medal and diploma from the Fisheries Exhibition, the establishment of a good prize fund, and a variety of other matters, all pertaining to the welfare of the society. The statement of accounts was also satisfactory, comparing very favourably with preceding years. The chairman, who stated that he should prefer the adoption of the report to be moved by some member not upon the committee, said he had only to repeat the commencement of the report, and congratulate the members on the present flourishing condition of the society. The committee, during the past year, had done everything in their power for the good of the society, and he believed there was a bright prospect before them. Mr. Chambers moved, and Mr. Ohlson seconded, the adoption of the report, each expressing their great satisfaction with it. It was then put to the meeting, and carried unanimously. On the motion of Mr. Moore, seconded by Mr. Chambers, a unanimous vote of thanks was passed to the committee for their services in the past year. The Secretary also

received a similar compliment, Mr. Crumplen, Mr. Moore (one of the auditors), Mr. Godwin, Mr. Field, and the chairman expressing their approval of the way in which the duties of the office had been performed. The election of officers for the ensuing year was then proceeded with. The president (Ld George Hamilton) and the vice-presidents were unanimously elected, as were also Mr. Bates, as treasurer; Captain Alfred, as curator; and Mr. Bryant, as librarian. The election of the committee was then proceeded with by ballot, Messrs Bartlett and Harding being appointed scrutineers. The votes having been taken, and whilst the scrutineers were engaged in casting them up, Mr. Arthur Bent played a violin solo in a very brilliant manner, and to the great delight of all present. The scrutineers having finished their work, the chairman announced that the following gentlemen had been elected to form the committee for the year: Messrs. Crumplen, Bentley, Field, Parker, Lloyd, Chambers, Cartright, Thomas and Austin. A vote of thanks was then passed to the scrutineers. Captain Alfred gave notice that he would move an alteration in rule 3, so as to make the hon. solicitor an ex-officio member of the committee, and Mr. Chambers also gave notice of a proposal to alter "may" to "shall" in rule 19. During the evening several members (including the chairman, Mr. Lake, Mr. Godwin and Mr. J. Thomas), gave a description of sport obtained during the past few days. A capital recitation from Mr. Harding, songs by Messrs. Moore, Crumplen, Hartley and others, and also another violin solo by Mr. Arthur Bent (to whom a special vote of thanks was accorded), helped to add to the pleasantness of a meeting which, owing to the quantity of work to be done, was not brought to a close until a late hour. A very hearty vote of thanks to the chairman closing the proceedings.

MARLBOROUGH ANGLING SOCIETY.

The members of the above society will commemorate the opening of the season with a supper on the 19th, at their headquarters, The Marlborough Head, Marmont Road, Peckham, at 8.30 (military time). Friends wishing to be present on that occasion, are requested to apply to Mr. Holloway, secretary, or to Mr. Boreman.—PIXIE.

OLD GREEN MAN PISCATORIALS.

Two members of the above club fished the river Mease, at Haselour, on the 4th inst. Mr. E. Thorn taking one pike and one perch, the perch weighing 1 lb. 6 oz.; Mr. F. Eaves took 15½ lb. of chub and dace, one chub weighing 3 lb. 2½ oz., another 2 lb. 10 oz., and one of the dace drawing the beam at 14½ oz. All the fish were in good condition. If it will meet with your approval, I will send you reports of the catches in this water from time to time.—JAMES T. ALLEN, sec.

ORIGINAL CLERKENWELL PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

The annual supper and distribution of prizes will take place on Wednesday, June 18th. Music provided. Members will oblige by forwarding their prices not later than Monday next.—J. OBBARD, sec.

PECKHAM BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

At a special meeting of the above society, Mr. George Durand in the chair, it was proposed and carried that the opening match be fished in the river Wey, from Cox Mill to the first lock up the Basingstoke Canal, for prizes given by Messrs. Page, Turner, Holtham, and Gardham. Mr. G. Grace was proposed as a member. The delegates gave a report of the meeting at the West Central Association, and the general opinion of the members is that amalgamation will be for the benefit of the anglers at large.—W. H. PAGE, hon. sec.

SOUTH LONDON UNITED.

The members of the societies forming this unity paid their second visit of the season to "The Second Surrey," at their new quarters "The Waterman's Arms," Paris-street, Lambeth, on the 9th. During the early part of the evening the grand question of the amalgamation was discussed in a warm, but friendly spirit by some of the members of "the ancient," and "the modern" associations of London Anglers. Information was given and gained, it was quite evident, and after quoting the old motto, "May the difference of opinion never alter friendship," we all adjourned to the concert room where we were entertained by the abilities of Messrs. Page, Bignell, Rogers, Coombs, S.S., Pettit, S.T., Newhouse, B.B., R. Smith, R.P., Grant and several others in the following songs and recitations: "Sal Grogan's face," "All through obliging a Lady," "Club Angler," "The Stowaway," "The Masher's Duet," "The Thorn," "The Charge of the Six Hundred," or "The Balacava Charge," &c. Mr. Allen now called the roll, and the following responded: "Bermondsey Brothers," "Second Surrey," "Rodney Piscatorials," "South London," "Anchor and Hope," "Peckham Brothers," "United Brothers," "Anglers Pride," "Excelsior," "Crown Angling Society," "Marlborough Angling Society," "Silver Trout," and "The St. Albans." Mr. Allen called attention to the first pegged down competition which will take place on the 29th at Egham; tickets for which can now be had of the secretaries of the various societies enrolled in the unity, and secretaries requiring an extra supply are requested to apply to him as early as possible. The next visit will go to "The Rodney Piscatoria's," "The Albion," Rodney Road, Walworth, on Monday, 7th July. Mr. Field now arrived, and introduced Mr. P. Geen, who was received with musical honours. It was now getting late, and the last song of the evening was proclaimed. We retired, some to catch the train, the tram, or bus, and some commenced an open air discussion on the subject commenced during the early part of the evening.—PIXIE.

THAMES ANGLING PRESERVATION SOCIETY.

At the meeting of this committee this week it was arranged to hold the annual dinner at the Star and Garter Hotel, Richmond Hill, on Wednesday, July 16, and the president (Mr. Thomas Spreckley) will preside on the occasion. The conviction of William Peace by the Wandsworth Bench on Friday, June 6, was reported for having unsizable flounders in his possession. The defendant pleaded guilty, and was fined 10s. and costs. Likewise George Parkins, fisherman, was convicted by the Hammersmith Bench, on Thursday last, for having in his possession an illegal flounder net, and also a quantity of unsizable flounders, and fined for the two offences in the sum of £1, and 4s. cos's. James Leech and Edward Anson at the same time and place were each fined in the sum of £1, and 6s. cos's, for using an illegal net and taking unseasonable and unsizable roach and dace. The following resolution was received from the Richmond Piscatorial Society, and ordered to be entered on the minutes:—"That a vote of thanks be accorded to the Thames Angling Preservation Society for the action they have taken for the protection of fish spawning in the tidal waters." Mr. Spreckley and Mr. Little were appointed to represent the society at the Conference at the Society of Arts on

Wednesday next in respect to "The Freshwater Fisheries Act, 1884," called by the Fisheries Preservation Association. Mr. Spreckley reported several important steps that are being taken in protecting the fish in the river and other matters in the interests of the anglers, which were considered satisfactory. Other business was transacted, and a new member of the society elected.

THE GRANGE ANGLING SOCIETY.

This society held its second annual meeting at its club house, the Earl of Derby, Grange Road, S.E., on Thursday, the 5th inst., the president, W. R. Hosken, Esq., presiding. The chairman, in the course of his remarks on the report and balance sheet for 1883-4, said they had to congratulate themselves on the success the society had made, for during the twelvemonth to date forty new members had been enrolled, and, after paying all expenses, &c., they found the society £5 12s. in advance of the corresponding period last year. The election of the officers and committee for the ensuing year was next proceeded with, and resulted in the re-election of those gentlemen who had served the last twelve months.—W. K.

P.S.—The society's second annual dinner will take place at the Southwark Park Tavern, Southwark Park Road, on Tuesday, the 17th inst.

THE PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

The usual weekly meeting of this society took place on Monday last, and there was a large attendance of members. Among those present were Messrs. Fennings, Pattison, Harrison, Sachs, Lemann, Gray, Brougham, Jesse Meyer, Winton, Huggett, Goodger, Walker, Wheeldon, Clegg, Sparrow, Adlington, Dr. Brunton, Rev. G. Sumner, &c., &c.; and amongst the visitors, Mr. Wheeldon, jun., and Mr. R. B. Mann. The minutes of the previous meeting were read confirmed. Mr. Thomas Huggett was unanimously voted to the chair. Mr. Ross Faulkner has weighed in two nice trout from the Lea. Dr. Brunton has also had a good week on the Lea and one of its tributaries. On his first visit the May fly was well up, but, unfortunately, the floating weeds also. At one particular place the Doctor suspected a fish resided; he essayed him by capturing a few natural May-flies and letting them drop gently on the water, floating down to the spot where Mr. Troutie lies. He took them greedily one after the other. The Doctor then cast his artificial fly over him, which he immediately took, and, when landed, turned out to be a trout of nearly 2 lb.; he also took some other smaller ones. On the second occasion, he fished a tributary of the Lea, and, by fly-fishing fine and far off, took some very nice trout, the largest seaing, at our rooms 2 lb. 13 oz. He weighed in eight fish, just upon 12 lb., which must be considered a splendid average, and also returned several smaller ones to the river. The next business (always a popular one) was the election of a new member. This gentleman's name had been previously submitted to the committee, and they recommended him for election. In the result he was unanimously elected a member of the society. His name and the proposer and seconder shall be forwarded next week. Mr. Booker has been trouting in the Kennet, and took four brace of fish in one day; also to Pangbourne, where he captured two Thames trout, the first 2½ lb. and the second between 3 and 4 lb. Mr. Fennings has been fishing in the Welland—sport, indifferent. The members were next delighted with an account by Mr. C. P. Wheeldon of his successful capture of Thames trout at Hampton Court, on the Derby Day. In his own peculiarly graphic and pleasant manner, he said that the morning was cold, with north-east wind blowing; and that, when he arrived at the river side and saw Smith, the fisherman, they both thought there was little chance of success. They first essayed the Gallery Hole, after which, quietly dropping down the river opposite the Palace, they saw a trout break; they fished carefully down and when the live bait was near the spot where they saw the break, Mr. Wheeldon had a run, and they captured the fish, which weighed 5 lb. They next saw a monster in the Gallery Hole, which they calculated weighed at least 17 lb. Two boys had seen a fish there, and had been trying for him all the morning without result; so they specially invited our member to come and have a try for him, which he accordingly did. By carefully working the bait through the stones and over the shallows, it at last arrived in the deep, where he rose the fish, but he came short. There, doubtless, are several in that hole. Mr. Wheeldon thought they would then go to luncheon and give the fish a rest. They afterwards returned, and when the bait, as before, got into the deep, the trout rose. Mr. Wheeldon hooked him, and he at once rushed across the river, taking out about fifty yards of line. The tackle and running line was of that fine description that it took three-quarters of an hour to land him, and, at the time of capture, weighed about 11 lb.; the next day he weighed 10 lb. 4 oz. He was successful enough to hook another and larger fish at the bridge, but, after having had him some time on the books, by cunning play on the part of the trout he rushed up stream faster than Mr. Wheeldon could gather or wind in his Nottingham line, and so shook out the hooks from his mouth. There was considerable cheering when Mr. Wheeldon had finished his remarks. The Rev. G. Sumner congratulated Mr. Wheeldon on his great success, but doubted, from his point of view, if live-bait fishing was to be encouraged or countenanced by the leading angling society of London. Mr. Wheeldon, in reply, considered that, with a line so fine as the one he had used and brought to the meeting for inspection, and with the finest possible tackle, it was legitimate and fair sport, and required much skill to capture trout with the live-bait. He further pointed out that it was necessary that the bait should work as naturally as possible, and that it required not only skill, but perseverance, to capture the wily beauties. The Rev. G. Sumner said there had been a general consensus of opinion amongst anglers, both past and present, that live-bait fishing for trout (Thames, as well as others) was to be deprecated. The gravamen of the charge of live-bait fishing was that it was altogether too deadly, and that the rivers would soon be depopulated if it was continuously carried on; besides which, the angler is not imitating nature, but fishing with nature itself. Some remarks were also made by Dr. Brunton, who mentioned several authors who deprecated the practice, in which he emphatically concurred. Mr. Hatfield asked for the support of the members of this society so far as taking the privilege tickets from the Central Association, which still retains its independent action. He complained of the London and South-Western Railway withdrawing the concession from the Central Association, more particularly as the officials had acknowledged to himself and others that no charge or complaint had been made against any member of that association for misuse of the privilege tickets. Mr. H. B. Brown considered that members would do well to patronise the Central Association. Mr. Huggett said that the question for those members of this society who used the privilege ticket was—Could the Central Association offer the same privileges as the other associations? Until they could do so, he anticipated many would go to where they could get best served. "The Continued Success of the Piscatorial Society" was proposed from the chair, and duly honoured. "The Health of the Chairman," and his reply, brought the business of the meeting to a close.—T. H.

WALWORTH PISCATORIALS.

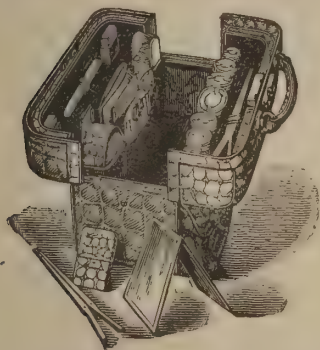
The inaugural dinner of the above took place on the 5th. The chair was occupied by Mr. S. J. Weatherhead, and the vice chair by Mr. G. Duck. About fifty sat down, among them being Messrs. Beckett, Brinton, H. Bayley, Barnes, Brodie, Boalch, Boddy, Cain, Curtis, Delhay, H. Dale, W. Gilbert, Grigg, Hibble, Hamlyn, sen. and jun., Hawkrigge, H. Quodlin, &c. After the removal of the cloth the usual loyal toasts were given and responded to. The chairman proposed the toast of the evening, "Success to the Walworth Piscatorials," coupled with the names of Messrs. Beckett and Bayley. In doing so he spoke of the steps which had led to the origin of the society, and to the death of the treasurer of the old societies, (Mr. C. Bansback.) He expressed the hope that the son of that gentleman—and their present host—might follow in the footsteps of his father. Whilst the society had been strengthening its hands by unity, there were three associations in London, which were supposed to represent anglers, in which dissensions had arisen. The desire of personal ambition seemed to have the principal sway. This was a very important subject, for they were threatened with the loss of a great concession given to them by the Railway Companies, and unless they took measures to ensure better organisation among the three societies, he was afraid they would have reasons to regret it. He next spoke about the late Fisheries Exhibition, the success, and the good it had done, and the good it was likely to do. In the first place in providing a fund for the widows and orphans of the fishermen around the coast, and secondly, by showing how coarse fish could be bred with very little expense, that in time to come, they would have some of those catches so often heard about, but not seen of late years. The Select Committee of the House of Commons was next spoken about, and he hoped and trusted that the result would be to make the Thames as free to them, and their descendants, as it had been to their forefathers. He concluded by wishing the society a successful career. Messrs. Beckett and Bayley, in responding, echoed the wish of the chairman that the society would have a grand future. Mr. G. Duck next proposed, "Kindred Societies" which was responded to by Mr. La Feuillade. Mr. Hamlyn proposed the prize winners of the old society; this was responded to by Messrs. Gilbert and Beckett. The Chairman proposed "The Visitors and Donors," to which Messrs. W. Taylor

and Ollard replied. Mr. Beckett proposed "The Press," coupled with the names of Messrs. J. P. Wheelton and Stiff. Several other healths were proposed and responded to in a most hearty manner. Songs and recitations were contributed by Messrs. Taylor, Wood, Bayley, Beckett, Kibble, Vagnolini, and others. Mr. Shrewsbury presided at the piano. The following prizes were offered for competition during the forthcoming season:—C. Bansback, £3 3s.; R. White, £2 2s.; T. Gilbert, £2 2s.; Delhay, sen., £2 2s.; S. J. Weatherhead, £2 2s.; G. Duck, £1 11s. 6d.; A. Piolaine, £1 11s. 6d.; J. Walker, £1 1s.; Delhay, jun., £1 1s.; Mr. Brenton, £1 1s.; J. Hawkrigge, £1 1s.; J. Bedford, £1 1s.; R. Cain, £1 1s.; W. Tower, £1 1s.; R. T. Russell, £1 1s.; H. Quodling, £1 1s.; Dangini, £1 1s.; Mawby, £1 1s.; F. Grigg, side of bacon; Sutcliffe, overcoat; La Feuillade, silver watch; H. Bayley, a hat; G. H. Fox, a library album; J. Boalch, a morocco album; W. Taylor, a box of cigars and a smokers' companion; H. Dale, two gallons of gin; Beckett, two half sacks of flour; Grenits two half-sacks of flour; A. C. Taylor, one half-sack of flour; for the largest roach over 1 lb, Mr. Waters, £1 1s.; greatest number of jack from the Thames or the Lea, Mr. Griffin, £1 1s.; largest perch, Mr. Hebble, £1 1s. The distribution of the prizes won by the members during the past season will take place on the 12th.—PIXIE.

ON Monday, the 9th inst., Messrs. Earle's Shipbuilding and Engineering Company (Limited) launched from their yard at Hull a fine iron twin-screw fish carrier, built to the order of W. Burdett-Coutts, Esq. The dimensions of the vessel are as follow:—Length, 120 feet; breadth, 21 feet; depth of hold, 10 feet. She is built to Lloyd's 100A class, has a raised quarter-deck over the engine and boiler space aft, and a turtle back forward under which the crew will be berthed, the captain and officers being accommodated in the cabin aft. The galley and lamp-room are in iron houses under the bridge amidships. This vessel will be ketch-rigged, and have a good spread of canvas. All the latest improvements, such as steam trawling gear, steam steering gear, water ballast, and lifts for the fish boxes, have been provided, and the engines (which will be fitted by the builders) are twin-screw compressed diagonal surf-condensing engines of 70 nominal horse-power. The vessel was named the *Enterprise* by Miss Kelson, niece of Captain Leuty, the owner's representative.

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Correspondents are requested to write on one side of the paper only, and give their real names and addresses, not necessarily as signatures to their letters, but as a guarantee of good faith. Unless this rule be adhered to, no notice will be taken of such communications.

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The Fishing Gazette.

SATURDAY, JUNE 21, 1884.

THE NATIONAL FISH CULTURE ASSOCIATION,
SOUTH KENSINGTON.

THE fine aquarium in the West Arcade of the Health Exhibition, at South Kensington, which, as most of our readers are aware, has this year been placed by the Executive in the hands of the National Fish Culture Association, is now in excellent condition, and well repays a visit. Mr. Oldham Chambers, the worthy manager and secretary, has indeed worked indefatigably, and the results he has attained daily delight thousands of sightseers. Among the latest additions to the tanks are a dozen golden orff, the property of the Duke of Bedford; a fine brace of Loch Leven trout (*S. Levenensis*), half a dozen fish-eating birds, an octopus, a lump fish (a first specimen of which succumbed), and a dozen fine wrasse. The Canadian salmon, situate in the Fish Culture Department, continue in fine condition, and form one of the few representatives at the Health Exhibition of the late Fisheries Exhibition. In the aquarium, the magnificent collection of sea anemones, exhibited by Mr. T. G. Mann, remains one of the chief features of the department under the association, and excites constant admiration. The sea horses in the globes are very interesting, and the specimens of the fish-eating plant should not escape notice. The National Fish Culture Association is doing a capital work at South Kensington, in addition to the work connected with the tanks and the hatching and rearing apparatus, by the publication of an excellent handbook called "British Fishes," which, at the price of 6d., gives a mass of valuable information respecting rearing and breeding and the habits and foods of fish, as well as nearly sixty important illustrations. This little volume has been compiled by Mr. Oldham Chambers, and there is little doubt that it will be welcomed by the whole angling and fish culture world. The book can be obtained in the building, or through the post from the association direct. At the last meeting of the Council, held on Wednesday last at the offices in the Exhibition grounds, the Marquis of Exeter took the chair, and among those present were:—Mr. Edward Birkbeck, M.P., and Messrs. H. Lee, A. G. Jardine, C. E. Fryer, H. Ffennell, C. C. Capel, C. Bates, R. B. Marston, and J. L. Sayer. Five new members of the association were elected, and upon the motion of Mr. Marston, seconded by Mr. Birkbeck, M.P., the following gentlemen were elected honorary foreign corresponding members of the association:—Fred Mather, American Fish Culture Association, New York; Professor Baird, U. S. Fish Commission; S. Wilmot, Commissioner of Fisheries for Canada; Messrs. Livingstone, Stone, Seth Green, Geo. S. Page, Professor Brown-Goode, Earl, and Collins of the American Fish Culture Association; Max v. d. Borne, Bernuchen, Germany; Emil Weeger, Brünn, Austria; Dr. Zenk, Würzburg, Germany; Baron Tcherkasoff, Russia; Capt. N. Juel, Norwegian Royal Navy, President of the Society for the Development of Norwegian Fisheries, Bergen; S. Landmark, Inspector of Norwegian Fresh-water Fisheries, Bergen; Dr. S. A. Buch, Christiania, Norway, Government Inspector of Fisheries; Prof. O. G. Sars, Christiania, Norway, Government Inspector of Fisheries; Dr. Oscar Lundberg,

Stockholm, Sweden, Inspector of Fisheries; Baron N. de Solsky, Director of the Imperial Agricultural Museum, St. Petersburg, Russia; Prof. B. Beneke, Commissioner of Fisheries, Königsberg, Pomerania; Arthur Feddersen, Viborg, Denmark; Prof. A. A. W. Hubrecht, Member of the Dutch Fisheries Commission and Director of the Netherlands Zoological Station; M. Raveret Wattel, Secretary of the Société d'Acclimatation, Paris; Don Francisco Garcia Sola, Secretary of the Spanish Fisheries Society, Madrid; Prof. E. H. Giglioli, Florence, Italy; M. A. Apostolides, Athens, Greece; William Maclean, Sydney, President of the Fisheries Commission of New South Wales.

ENGLISH TROUT IN AMERICA.

IN an extremely interesting paper on "Fresh and Salt Water Hatching at Cold Spring Harbour," read by Mr. Fred. Mather before the American Fish Culture Association, we find the following:—

"This year I received ten thousand eggs of English trout from Mr. R. B. Marston, Editor of the FISHING GAZETTE, London. Five thousand of these were labeled 'our best trout,' 3,000 were from the Itchen, and 2,000 from the Wye. Both last year and this season the large German trout have hatched well but have died freely before taking food, while the small variety has thrived and been distributed to waters not named in this article. The large English trout have done splendidly and will be kept at the station for breeders. This European brook trout has, as you may see, a larger scale than ours, and to my eye is a more beautiful fish than our own trout. It is a fish that from its habit in Europe should live in the Hudson from North Creek, or above, down to Troy. In Europe it is found plentiful in the South of England, while the charrs, of which our so-called trout is one, are only found in the deep cool lakes of the North. I believe that we have the necessary conditions on the Atlantic coast to successfully acclimatise this fish, and I have always been sceptical about habituating the *Salmonidae* of the short streams of the Pacific coast, with their snow-fed waters in mid-summer, to our longer and warmer rivers, and this scepticism has increased since I have suspected the so-called rainbow trout to be identical with the steelhead salmon, *S. gairdneri*, which is a migratory fish."

MR. KELSON'S ARTICLES ON SALMON FLIES.

WE regret to say that, owing to slight indisposition, Mr. Kelson is unable to finish his letter in time for to-day, but our readers can depend on its appearance in next week's number.

A NINE-POUND NEW ZEALAND TROUT AND THE
ANGLERS' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

AFTER the Fisheries Conference at the Society of Arts, last Wednesday, Mr. R. B. Marston, Editor of the FISHING GAZETTE, exhibited a splendid trout of 9 lb. weight, which he explained had been sent to him, frozen, per ss. *Tongariro*, as a present from the Otago Acclimatisation Society. The fish, a splendid specimen, was greatly admired.

Mr. Marston subsequently took the fish to Mr. Towell, the fishmonger, at Charing Cross, and stated that he wished to dispose of it and give the proceeds to the Anglers' Benevolent Society. Mr. Towell at once very kindly offered to hand over for the charitable purpose named whatever sum it might fetch, and had the fish placed in the best position in front of his shop, where, surrounded with green weed, and with a short historical notice attached, it soon attracted much attention.

IMPORTANT MEETING OF THE AMALGAMATED
ASSOCIATIONS.

By L. B.

ON Monday evening, the 11th inst., a crowded meeting of the representatives of angling societies met at the New Foresters' Hall, Clerkenwell Road, Mr. Geen being voted to the chair.

The resolutions passed at the West Central Association meeting, re amalgamation, and fully reported in a recent number of the GAZETTE, together with the proposed basis of the amalgamation, were then read, the various officers, from the president downward, being also enumerated.

Mr. Beckett, in a long and exceedingly temperate and conciliatory speech, carefully reviewed and explained the position of affairs—the thorough understanding arrived at between the East and West Central Association, which that-night's vote would officially confirm—he regretted that the third or Central Association had not as yet come into the amalgamation. He had, however, no doubt but that they would do so. At all events, they would that evening be asked, supposing they agreed to the amalgamation, of which he had little doubt, to leave open for some reasonable time the offices and places on the various committees apportioned to the representatives of the Central Association. In conclusion, Mr. Beckett moved the following resolution:—

“That in the opinion of the delegates present at this meeting, especially convened by circular to every angling society in London, the resolution passed at the West Central Association of London and Provincial Angling Societies and the United London Anglers' Central Committee be and are hereby confirmed.”

Mr. Manning, in seconding the resolution, said he had for some time watched the growth of the West Central with varied feelings. The “United London Anglers” was the parent association, and the growth of the West Central had been the loss of the East Central. There was no disguising the fact that there had been rivalry and competition between the associations. Rivalry and competition, where each had the same object in view, were detrimental to the best interests of angling. Each association would fear to move, even where important interests were at stake, for fear of giving the rival body an advantage. He thought the time had arrived when amalgamation had become urgently necessary. Mr. Manning, in conclusion, added: “Whatever a few individuals, actuated by spleen and animosities, may say to the contrary in the Press or elsewhere, we of the East and Western Association are one from to-night—(cheers)—and I sincerely hope better counsels will prevail with No. 3 Association, and that they will soon come in and join the band.” (Cheers.)

The resolution was then put and carried, a perfect forest of hands being held up in favour of same as against four to the contrary.

Mr. Geen, whose rising was greeted with repeated cheers, said:—“I thank you, gentlemen, for having carried the resolutions passed at the separate, but simultaneous, meetings of the East and West Central—carried them almost unanimously and in such an enthusiastic manner—your vote confirms the election of officers, and among others my election to the post of president. A great deal has been said—by a minority, it is true; still, it has been said—about this post being filled by your humble servant. We are told we should have a lord or someone holding a high position entirely outside our own body as our president. (No! no!) Well, it has been suggested, and seriously. Now, let me urge you not to listen to this kind of talk. You have plenty of good men and true who would fill such an office with honour to themselves and satisfaction to you. I feel this so strongly that I purpose resigning the office of president to which you have just elected me by confirming the previous minutes, and I do this as an answer to my critics, and to give this meeting of London anglers an opportunity of offering the post to any other suitable person, and possibly to a better man than myself.”

Mr. Geen then vacated the chair, Mr. Bonvoisin temporarily occupying it.

It was immediately proposed by Mr. Humphries and seconded by Mr. Manning, “That Mr. Geen be president of the Anglers' Association,” the resolution being unanimously carried.

Committee of the House of Commons *re* Thames Rights and Riparian Encroachment.—The president was empowered by the carrying of a proposition made by Mr. Townsend, and seconded by Mr. Humphries, to give evidence on behalf of the London anglers, and to refer to the General Purposes Committee for such instructions as he might require.

The committee to be shortly convened by circular to draft rules and transact other business.

Two new societies, viz., the “Old Roman” and the “Clapton,” were proposed, second, and duly enrolled.

Several questions respecting funds, balance sheets, &c., were asked and satisfactorily answered.

The roll was called by the general secretary (Mr. Richard Ghurney), when the following sixty-seven societies answered to their names:—

The Alliance, Alexandra, Amicable Waltonians, Anglers' Pride, Acton Piscatorials, Act-on-the-Square, Battersea, Bloomsbury Brothers, Bermondsey, Brompton (late Knights of Knightsbridge), Beresford, Burdett, Buckland, City of London, Cavendish, Clerkenwell Amateurs, Convivial, Clapham Junction, Clapton, Cambridge Friendly, Cobden, Crown Piscatorials, Duke of Norfolk, Dalston, Eustonian, Edmonton and Tottenham,

Golden Barbel, Good Intent, Globe, Gresham, Hammersmith Club, Hammersmith United, Hand-in-Hand, Hearts of Oak, Hoxton Brothers, Hampstead, Izaak Walton, Independent Jovials, Junior Piscatorial, Metropolitan, Marylebone, Nautilus, North-Eastern, North-Western, Original Clerkenwell Piscatorials, Original Alexandra, Peckham Brothers, Phoenix, Prince of Wales, Portsmouth Waltonians, Reform, Richmond Piscatorials, Rodney, St. John's, St. Alban's, Sir Hugh Myddleton, South London, Stepney, Sociable Brothers, Stoke Newington, West Ham Brothers, Waltonians, West Central Angling Club, Westbourne Park Piscatorial, Old Roman, and South Hornsey.

A hearty vote of thanks to the chair brought this highly satisfactory meeting to a close.

THE FISHERIES CONFERENCE.

THE FRESHWATER FISHERIES ACT, 1884.

THE Conference of Fishery Boards, Angling Societies, &c., called by the Fisheries Preservation Association, to consider what By-laws it was desirable should be made by Boards of Conservators under the above Act for the regulation of netting and the modes of fishing generally in freshwater, was held at the House of the Society of Arts, John Street, Adelphi, on Wednesday last, Lieut.-General Lord Abinger, C.B., President of the Fisheries Preservation Association, in the chair. Letters expressing much regret at the inability from various causes of the writers to be present were read from the following—viz., His Grace the Duke of Northumberland, the Marquis of Exeter, Mr. Ridley, chairman of the Tyne Fishery Board; Mr. Parker, a member of the Eden Fishery Board and secretary to the Eden and Eamont Association; Col. Pictou-Turbervill, chairman of the Ogmire and Ewenny and Taff and Ely Boards; the Hon. E. Portman, chairman of the Avon and Stour Board; Mr. Fenwick, chairman of the Lune Board; Col. Scurfield, chairman of the Tees Board; Mr. Beynon, chairman of the Towy Board; and Mr. Skrine, chairman of the Avon, Brue, &c. Board.

The following Boards, however, were represented:—The Severn by Mr. J. W. Willis-Bund; the Wye by His Grace the Duke of Beaufort, K.G., the chairman, Captain Hotchkiss, and Mr. Evan Owen, the Clerk to the Board; the Taw and Torridge by Earl Fortescue, the chairman; the Teign by the Rev. Hayter Hames for the Earl of Devon, the chairman; the Trent by Mr. Eddowes, the Clerk to the Board, the Kent, &c., by Mr. Fell (formerly chairman) for Col. Scurfield, the present chairman; the Ayrone by Col. John Lewes, the chairman, the Sciont by Mr. R. J. Davids, Clerk to the Board, the Lee Conservancy by Mr. Cobbe, Clerk to the Board, and the Norfolk and Suffolk Conservators by Mr. Edward Field, Secretary to the Board. The metropolitan angling societies represented at the meeting were the Thames Angling Preservation Society by Mr. Spreckley (the chairman), and by Captain Alfred, Mr. Geen, and Mr. Ghurney the London and South-Western Railway, the Acton and Ealing, the Surrey Piscatorial, the Richmond Piscatorial, and the Good Intent. The provincial societies represented were the Leicester Angling Society, the Boston Angling Society, the Bedford Club, the Yare Preservation and Angling Society, the Redditch Angling Club, the Nottingham and Wellington Club, the Oxford Angling Society, the Reading and District Association, and the Market Deeping Society. Various of the Fishery Boards and angling societies unable to send representatives to the meeting forwarded written replies and suggestions as to the By-laws that in their opinion it was desirable should be made by the Boards of Conservators under the Freshwater Fisheries Act, 1884.

There were also present at the meeting the following:—Dr. Peter Hood, Mr. T. H. Mann, Mr. C. C. Capel, Mr. C. E. Fryer (of the Fishery Department, Home Office), Mr. R. B. Marston, Mr. Senior, Mr. H. Fennell, Mr. Thomas Wood, and Mr. T. E. Gunn, F.L.S.

A protracted discussion of the various points brought under the consideration of the meeting resulted in the passing of the following resolutions:—

Proposed by Mr. Philip Geen and seconded by Mr. A. J. Little—

- I.—That netting should be abolished in all public waters, and that in private waters it should be illegal to net without the written permission of the owner, such permission to have been signed and dated within three days, inclusive of the day of netting. A casting net, not exceeding 20 feet in circumference, with a purse not exceeding 6 inches in depth, for the purpose only of catching bait and to be used only by licensed fishermen or water-bailiffs, to be the only exceptions.
- II.—That netting should be partially abolished in all waters, namely—night netting for all fish except eels. That all nets should be licensed. That no net license should be granted to any persons without the express authority of the Board, and that the applicant for it should satisfy the Board that he has a right to use such net. That Boards should be empowered to grant permission to owners and lessees of fisheries to net coarse fish at any season of the year.
- III.—That each Board of Conservators should make such by-laws as regards nets as the Board considers suitable for the district.
- Mr. Thomas Spreckley proposed—
- IV.—That each Board of Conservators should make such by-laws as to the modes and instruments for catching fish as they consider suitable for their district, and that the attention of the Boards of Conservators should be called to the different by-laws now in force on the river Thames.
- V.—That the chairman embody these resolutions in a report, and that copies be sent to the various fishery boards and angling societies, with a view of ensuring as far as possible uniformity in the different by-laws that may be made under the new Freshwater Fisheries Act, 1884.

With a vote of thanks to the chairman, the Conference then broke up.

MORE PRIZES FOR THE TOURNAMENT.

MR. MARRIOTT, of the True Waltonians, kindly promises to give as prizes Macaulay's "History of England," 2 vols., and John Stuart Mill's "Principles of Political Economy."

THE DEE (ABERDEENSHIRE).—GRILSE FLIES.

SECOND ARTICLE.

WE hold that, unless for fishing in very heavy water, the irons, on which salmon and grilse are dressed, can scarcely be too slender, if sufficiently strong. In any swift-flowing river, such as the Dee, the advantage to the angler in possessing flies of this description cannot fail to be apparent. For one thing, they glide smoothly through the water, and are, therefore, more natural and tempting in appearance than flies of more expensive and cumbrous get-up. Ever since the long slender irons—specially made for Cosmo Gordon, Esq., the inventor of the "Gordon"—were brought into use, they have been steadily growing in the estimation of Dee anglers. In fact, at the present day our regular experts scarcely ever resort to the use of irons of a stronger make. In this respect, we imagine that the Dee has a monopoly, as it has not come to our knowledge that such irons—5 or 6 inches in length—are used for plain and fancy salmon flies, on any other "free-rising" river. In a swollen water, when it becomes necessary to sink the fly well, they are found less suitable than in ordinary circumstances. Still, on many of the upper reaches of the Dee they are constantly used, no matter what the condition of the river may be. So much for irons. Now for a word or two regarding hackles, &c.

The flies of a number of professional dressers are faulty, inasmuch as they are either insufficiently firm, possess too round heads, or too much hackle. Professional anglers, on the other hand, in regard to these points, run up their flies with rigid care. They do not aspire to work the silk so finely or lay on the tinsel so neatly as the tackle maker, but in general greater attention is paid by them to points of higher moment. Flies with nicely tapered heads cut the water easily, and spare, well-mixed hackles do not create a "furr." Their superiority, therefore, is obvious. While the hackles of Dee salmon flies frequently extend further than the whole length of the iron, and than it is seldom ever shorter, those used for grilse flies rarely go beyond the barb. These notes may be useful to those who intend to dress our patterns.

Description may now follow:—

No. 5.—THE MAGIC,

Regarded principally as a grilse lure, is a first-rate clear water fly, and used more generally in dull than bright weather. It is, however, a good, fair all-round killer, and is described as follows:—

Tag: Gold twist.

Tail: A small topping.

Body: Black, blue, and claret silk floss, in equal proportions—the blue of the chatterer shade.

Gold flat worm, five turns.

Hackle: Black cock; slight, and extending through the black part of the body only.

Throat: Teal, sparsely.

Wings: Mixed bustard and teal in same proportion.

Sides: Blue chatterer.

Golden pheasant topping to wing.

Black head.

Double Limericks, sizes Nos. 6 and 7.

No. 6.—BLACK TOM,

Almost exclusively for grilse, is another fly very suitable for fishing with in clear water, and particularly in sharp, clean-bottomed reaches, when the sun is high. It is equally as deadly as the Dee sun fly, and can be used with greater effect in very streamy water. On the whole, it gives a good account. Description as under:—

Tag: Silver twist and bright yellow floss.

Tail: A small topping.

Butt: Black herl.

Body: Black silk floss.

Narrow gold tinsel, four turns.

Hackle: Claret dyed, three-quarters down body, sparingly.

Throat: Pale blue cock hackle.

Wings: Two Indian crow feathers; two toppings; and a narrow strip of darkish, well-marked teal on either side.

Horns: Blue macaw.

Black head.

Double Limericks, sizes Nos. 7 and 8.

No. 7.—THE OLIVER.

An excellent salmon and grilse pattern; fishes best in a fairish-sized water on a clear day. Some hold it equal to, if not superior, to any of the Dee summer patterns, while others dispute the claim. Though vouching for its killing qualities, we refrain from comparing its merits with others. We describe it thus:—

Tag: Gold flat worm.

Tail: A small topping.

Butt: Black herl.

Body: Black mohair, very, very sparsely laid on.

Gold flat worm:—five turns.

Hackle: Black cock, rather sparsely and fairly well down body.

Teal round shoulder.

Wings: Mixed; peacock, pheasant, bustard, teal, summer duck, and yellow swan; topping over all.

Head: Black herl.

Double Limericks—Sizes No. 4, 5, and 6.

The "Oliver," especially in the body, must be dressed neatly and sparsely.

No. 8.—THE JEANNIE

Is a popular salmon fly in the early summer. Hitherto, it has been used most generally about Aboyne, Ballater, and Braemar. It is nothing more nor less than an inexpensive substitute for a Jock Scott. We have not yet used it for grilse, but reckon it would take fairly well. It may be regarded as a good general fly, the size to be used being regulated by the state of the water. Our description is:—

Tag: Gold twist.

Tail: Small topping.

Body: Black and orange silk floss, two-thirds black, one-third orange, the orange nearest to tag.

Gold flat worm.

Hackle: Black only at shoulder.

Wings: Double strips of very dark mallard—i.e., four pieces, two on each side, the one above the other.

With or without a topping over wing.

Cheeks: Jungle fowl.

Black head.

Double Limericks—Sizes, No. 4, 5, and 6.

No. 5 and 6 are patterns of our own. We have failed to trace the originators of Nos. 7 and 8. In the end of the third paragraph of our first article for "condition" read *conditions*, and in the following sentence read *least known* for "best known." W. M.

IMPORTANT PROSECUTION BY RIPARIAN OWNERS
FOR NIGHT-LINE FISHING AT SHREWSBURY.

AT the Mayor's Court, Shrewsbury, on Saturday, June 14th, a man named Frederick Littlehales, of Shrewsbury, was charged before E. Parry and Geo. Eddowes, Esq., with unlawfully and wilfully taking otherwise than by angling, between the beginning of the last hour before sunrise and the expiration of the first hour after sunset, certain eels, value 5s., from a portion of the Severn, over which Mr. T. W. Trouncer has a private right of fishing.

Mr. Chandler appeared for the complainant and Mr. Williams for the defendant.

Mr. Chandler explained to the Bench that his client had not the slightest desire to prohibit rod and line fishing, but, in consequence of the injurious effects of night lines, it was necessary to take these proceedings.

In order to simplify matters, Mr. Williams admitted this prosecution in law, viz., that there is no public right of fishing in that part of a tidal river which in itself is not tidal.

Mr. Chandler called Francis Lloyd, water-bailiff, who stated that on Monday, June 2nd, he was on the river side, near the Pengwern Boat House, when he saw defendant Littlehales approaching in a coracle, and laying night lines. He was accompanied by two boys in another coracle, who were getting stones for sinking the lines. Defendant went past Mr. Burr's, and landed in Mr. Burton's field, opposite Mr. Trouncer's. Witness stayed out all night, and between four and five o'clock on the following morning he saw defendant taking up his night-lines opposite Mr. Trouncer's land, and there were a number of eels on the hooks. When defendant went ashore witness asked him what weight of fish he thought he had got, and he replied, "From 12 to 14 lb."

Cross-examined, defendant laid the lines at about half past two o'clock in the afternoon. The custom of fishing with night-lines had been recognised from time immemorial, but Mr. Trouncer had recently requested him to watch for river poachers. After he saw the defendant lay the lines on the 2nd inst., he went and had some beer with him at the Acorn. Defendant paid for the refreshment, but that did not bias him at all.

In addressing the Bench for the defence, Mr. Williams complained that the prosecution had not adopted some other means for asserting their rights. Night-line fishing had been recognised from time immemorial. Many persons depended upon it for a livelihood, and yet his client was brought before the Bench under the same statute as he would have been had he been a servant and stolen his master's money. Defendant was charged with stealing; he was placed in the category as any person under the Larceny Act, and therefore it was incumbent on the part of the prosecution to prove (1) That there was a taking of fish; (2) That the taking was otherwise than by angling; (3) That the taking was between the beginning of the last hour before sunrise and the expiration of the first hour after sunset; (4) That the place from which the fish were taken was within the ownership of the prosecutor; and (5) The right of private fishing in the alleged owners. It was simply a test case to try the right of individuals as against a body of the general public. In his opinion it would have been a great deal better if the matter had been taken before a Court of Civil Jurisdiction, and if the magistrates convicted he hoped the penalty would be a nominal one. As he had observed before, the defendant was charged with larceny, which had been defined as "the felonious taking and carrying away the personal goods of another, and the taking must, to be felonious, be with the evident existing intention of dispossessing the owner permanently, and against his will, and this criminal motive must prompt the deed."

The Clerk remarked that defendant was simply charged with un-

lawfully and wilfully taking certain fish; he was not accused of larceny, although he was charged under the 24th section of the Larceny Act.

Mr. Williams went on to argue that defendant took the fish in the full and complete belief that he was exercising a right that had existed from time immemorial; but the Bench convicted the defendant, and fined him 5s. and costs.

PROSECUTION OF A RIPARIAN OWNER FOR FISHING IN HIS OWN PRIVATE WATER, AND DUCKING A WATER BAILIFF.

AT the Baschurch Petty Sessions last Monday, Mr. Richard Brown was charged with using a net without a license from the Severn Board of Conservators. After long argument on both sides, the magistrates could not agree, and no decision was given. Mr. Brown was then charged with pitching water bailiff Isaacs into the middle of the river Perry. The Bench reserved their decision, to see if the previous charge would be tried again.

A DAY'S OUTING AT SHEPPERTON.

STIMULATED by a desire to improve the industry and position of the Thames fishermen, Mr. Thomas Spreckley, the President of the Thames Angling Preservation Society, has arranged for a series of day's outings amongst gentlemen who are engaged in the mercantile pursuits of the great city, but who may not altogether be adepts in the piscatorial art. It may be, however, that the pleasures of a day's fishing with all its pleasant surroundings may lead them to become in a larger degree earnest disciples of the famous Izaak Walton, and by imbibing in them a thorough taste for "the gentle art," they will worthily support the President in his heartfelt desire to make the Thames, what it is now being made, the best and most productive fishery in the world. The arrangements upon which these outings are to be carried out are these:—The fishermen, with two gentlemen in the punt, are to charge eight shillings for the day, including fishing tackle, bait, and attendance. The gentlemen, forming a party of twenty, subscribe 5s. each, thereby realising a fund of £5. This amount is given in prizes to each of the fishermen engaged, in addition to the 8s. and in sums varying from 5s. up to £1, according to the best shows of fish they succeed in getting for their clients, the fishermen being allowed to select their own swims, and to fish for whatever they may consider the best. The first of the series of these outings was appropriately fixed for "the opening day" of the season, and the neighbourhood of Shepperton was selected as the portion of river to commence operations. In making arrangements with the fishermen it is but due to them to state they entered most heartily into the spirit of the movement, and feelingly expressed to Mr. Spreckley their thankfulness for the kind interest he took in their welfare. The Lincoln Arms, close to Shepperton Lock, was made the "headquarters" on this occasion. This well-known hostelry has been in the family of the Harris's, who were all fishermen, for several generations; and the late Mr. John Harris, whose respected widow and son now conduct the business, was a thorough and hearty supporter of Thames preservation and held a deputation to act as honorary river keeper. On the arrival of the party at Shepperton Station, carriages were supplied by Mr. C. R. Bennett, of the Anchor Hotel, to convey the anglers to the lock ferry, and crossing over to the Surrey side of the river, they arrived at the Lincoln Arms, where a light luncheon was in waiting for them, at about a quarter before 11 o'clock. The luncheon did not last very long, for soon after 11 o'clock the anglers were seated in the punt, and on the word "go" being given by Mr. Spreckley each started for their selected swim amidst considerable excitement on the banks from a large number of lookers-on. The party consisted of Messrs. Thomas Spreckley, S. White, W. D. Lewis, W. Senior, James Temple, Melton Prior, W. H. Froome, J. Thomson, G. Rawlinson, R. T. Watson, David Ormond, W. R. Spreckley, J. Padden, Spraggen, F. Colman, and H. Miles. Mr. A. J. Little and Mr. W. H. Brougham were appointed judges on the occasion. It was arranged for the boats to return soon after 5 o'clock. The weather was fine and enjoyable, but the water was stale and in unfavourable condition for sport. The result was that only three of the boats brought back any fish, as all unsizeable ones were instantly returned to the river again, and so small were the shows, that it was arranged not to give special prizes, but to divide the prize fund, which amounted to £4, equally amongst the eight punts, which gave general satisfaction. Mr. Melton Prior, the well-known artist of the *Illustrated London News*, really got the best fish, a well-conditioned roach, of 13½ oz.; and W. H. Froome, the next best of a handsome chub of 1½ lb. The fishermen employed were David Hackett, William Harris, Herbert Curr, William Rogerson, Edward Rosewell, Fred. Purdue, J. Poulter, and F. Poulter. Each of these men at the end of the day received 8s. for the punt and ros. from the prize fund, in addition to refreshments which they took out with them supplied by the anglers. At 6 o'clock, or soon after, the gentlemen sat down to a cold dinner, which had been provided for them by Mrs. Harris at the Lincoln Arms, and which gave great satisfaction. The only toast was "The Health of Mr. Spreckley," proposed by Mr. Senior in very graceful terms, and accorded a suitable reply. At 7.30 the enjoyable party broke up and wended its way to the ferry, where on the opposite side was Mr. Bennett with his retinue of carriages to convey the gentlemen to Shepperton Station for the 8.10 train to Twickenham and Waterloo, first calling and taking a parting glass at the old hostelry of The Anchor. As a day's outing, it was a most enjoyable one, and none regretted the deficiency of sport, which they rightly attributed to two causes—that of being too early in the season, and to the want of a good rainfall to freshen the water up. There was a general desire for a repetition of the day, and it will not be very long before another party is formed for another portion of the river.

B.

A TRENT STURGEON.—In the Trent, at Mr. Motley Waud's, Muskham fishery, this week, a sturgeon was taken which weighed 16 stone, and measured 8 ft. in length.

MEETING OF ANGLERS AT LEICESTER.

A MEETING of anglers took place on Monday at the Old Town Hall, Town Hall Lane, Leicester, convened by the leading local angling club. The chair was occupied by Alderman Barfoot, who was supported by Councillor A. Stretton. There was a capital attendance of the followers of the sport, and representatives were present from many of the angling clubs of the town. The chairman, in explaining the object of the meeting, stated that a communication had been received from the Fisheries Association, London, relative to the consideration of netting and other illegal modes of fishing. An Act of Parliament had been passed during the last year which was a departure from all rules which had been adopted, especially in such districts as that in which they lived. In this Act it gave power in any fishing district to form what was called a Fishery Board, and to appoint conservators for the preservation of fish in the waters within the district in which it was formed. This Board could make by-laws which determined whether nets should be used for the taking of fish in such district, for determining the size and length of the mesh of the nets, or for prohibiting the use of any instrument which was thought to be detrimental to the preservation of fish. The circular sent to the society contained a number of questions relative to the illegal mode of catching fish for the consideration of anglers and stated that the council of the association intended holding a Conference of representatives of fishing boards, angling societies, and others interested in the subject, to consider in what ways the powers in the Act should be carried out. The chairman further said that perhaps the principal things for the meeting to consider was whether it was desirable to endeavour to get the Fishery Board appointed for this district which would take charge, as it were, of the freshwater fishing in the Leicester district. If they thought it desirable that that should be done—and it appeared to him to be very desirable indeed—he thought they should, through the meeting, appoint a small deputation, or pass a resolution to the Town Council of Leicester and to the Quarter Sessions for the county to ask for co-operation in appointing a fishery conservancy board for the district. That was a very important matter in the interests of anglers, and also in the interests of the public, because there was no doubt that the fish in their rivers would, if this board of conservators were formed and they performed their duties in the manner which would be recommended by the Fisheries Preservation Association, become not only a great pleasure to those who indulged in the sport of angling, but also a great source of benefit in the way of finding food for the inhabitants along the rivers. Mr. Starkey, Jolly Anglers, Leicester Club, strongly supported the idea that netting should be abolished, as it had been the means of diminishing the numbers of fish. It was resolved that Mr. Benskin and Mr. Starkey should leave for London to represent the Leicester club at the Conference. Those views were decidedly against netting and against the use of night lines, snaring, spears, shooting, and the use of poison as most prejudicial modes of fishing. A vote of thanks to the Chairman closed the meeting.

UNITED BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY, KIDDERMINSTER.

THIS society was established four years ago at the Swan Hotel, Vicar Street, where its headquarters have been ever since. It has, of late, greatly increased in numbers, and now counts sixty ordinary and seventy honorary members. Amongst the latter are Councillors Anderson, C. Crowther, W. Gibbs (Wolverhampton), Bytheway, Conserdine-Chadwick; Messrs. T. Tempest-Radford, J. Saunders, A. Comber, J. W. Hughes, H. Taylor, Waddell, M.D., Colborn, Spofforth, Awdry, B. James, M. Fidkin, Gascoigne, Mossop, H. Dixon, jun., B. B. Bagster, Meredith, Withall, C. Barton, F. Blundell, R. Rogers, T. Sealey, and A. Fidkin, &c. It has just been affiliated with the Birmingham Anglers, and the amalgamated societies now number no less than 1,230 members. The entrance fee is 1s., and a subscription of 1s. per month is levied to cover expenses of club room, meetings and refreshments, anglers' outings, and the annual dinner. The funds left, after paying all expenses, are shared down at Christmas, and the society starts *de novo* at the commencement of the year. The president is Mr. James Redding; vice-president, Mr. J. Bill; secretaries, Messrs. E. Earp and Alfred Barnett, from the former of whom licenses or permits for fishing can be obtained. Licenses can also be obtained at the club-house, and we are informed that many gentlemen avail themselves of this method of obtaining a day's work. On Monday night the society held its half-yearly meeting at Mrs. Titley's, the Swan. The president occupied the chair, and forty members attended. The chairman commenced by giving a detailed account of the progress of the society, and explained some of the benefits to be derived from the union with Birmingham, which he was glad to say had become an accomplished fact. The privileges to be obtained from the railways was of itself sufficient reason for the step, as they would now have tickets extending from that town to almost every fishing station in the midland counties to commence on the 16th June. Mr. Earp then gave an account of his visit to Birmingham as their delegate to the United Association of that town. He was very cordially received; the brethren there were pleased at the idea of a union with Kidderminster, and surprised that their society had so large a number of members. There were some fourteen clubs represented at the meeting in Birmingham, and he found them an enthusiastic body of anglers. The question of railway terms was fully discussed. It appeared that on account of the privileges granted by the three companies having been abused by men taking the anglers' tickets at reduced rates for other purposes, the companies had come to a determination to stop them altogether. The Birmingham Association hearing this had drawn up a code of rules with regard to tickets, which they submitted to the companies, with the result that two of them had expressed their willingness to renew the privileges, and he hoped the third, the London and North-Western, would come round when it was seen that the Association were determined to put down this act of poaching. If the railway companies were treated with fairness it would come all right in the end. The Birmingham Association were rather strict as to delegates attending the meetings. Any delegate being absent once would be fined 1s.; twice, 5s.; and repeated absences would have to be treated by the whole body. He explained to them that this would be rather hard upon Kidderminster on account of the distance, and urged on them a modification of the rule. He showed that a hard and fast line like that proposed would scarcely be fair to them, and they read his views, and allowed Kidderminster brethren to appoint a resident at Birmingham to represent them. He at once named their friend, Mr. Owen, who willingly undertook the responsibility, and promised to keep them posted up in the business done. Each member's card would every quarter be stamped with an adhesive stamp invented for the purpose, which was a great improvement on the old system.

After expressing his pleasure at the reception he met with, and at the excellent meeting he had attended, Mr. Earp concluded amidst applause and thanks. In reply to a question, it was stated that the Birmingham brethren intended sending delegates to the Kidderminster Society. The amalgamation was then formally proposed and carried. The president then called attention to the treatment which their society had received at the hands of Mr. Humpherson, the water bailiff at Bewdley, which he described as having been unjust and ungenerous. The bailiff had tried to disparage their society by accusing them of throwing about their tickets and permits in a reckless manner. He also said that the bailiff had made accusations at headquarters which he could not substantiate. He could understand only one reason for this. Instead of taking their tickets by the riverside, gentlemen now applied personally or by letter to the society, because they believed that it was rendering good service to legitimate angling for the sake of assisting it in its efforts; this had annoyed Mr. Humpherson. He, lastly, urged them to preserve a straightforward course—if the bailiff wished to see what they had in their baskets, by all means let him do so. He also advised them to ask the bailiff to be reciprocal and turn up the contents of his; that would be a bit of mutual confidence, and if he had any trout, when he had no business to have them, they would report to the society. On the motion of Mr. Redding, a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Earp was carried with applause.—*The Kidderminster Shuttle.*

[We regret this was crowded out last week.—ED.]

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

W. STEPHEN.—Much obliged to you for the interesting cutting.
J. MESSENGER, Gosforth.—You can get pike scales from Mr. McNee; see his advt. in our columns. The pike scale takes gold and silver paint and some dyes well.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

ANGLERS' CHEAP FARES.

SIR,—Without wishing to enter into any special controversy as to the bearing of your foot-note to my communication in last Saturday week's *FISHING GAZETTE*, I would like to say a few words thereon. It is all very well to advise London anglers who, it would appear, retain some of their cheap travelling privileges, to hold their peace and thankfully accept the crumbs; but I opine a different tune would be played if the whole of their concessions had been, in the most autocratic way, swept clean away, as ours have. And there is no doubt that the bulk of anglers in this district will be "absolutely compelled"—as you, Sir, put it, to reduce their fishing excursions at least one half. I shall do it on principle, for, to go as often as before and paying nearly double the price, would be playing into the hands of the Railway Directors with a vengeance. Why, to get to our reservoir we have now to pay 6s. 4d. as against 3s. 6d. under the concession. Of course it does not matter much to the well-to-do angler, whom the question of ways and means does not trouble, how much he pays, but to thousands of others the increased fares are simply prohibitory. And these are to sit still with folded hands, and feel grateful at being allowed to go either at full fare or not at all. If being compelled to stay at home makes the fishing better for others who will, therefore, go oftener, they are welcome to it at the price. Besides it would be somewhat like enjoying yourself at the expense of your poorer brethren—not general or a cheerful feeling, I should hope. We have no "Thames," "Lea," "Darent," or "Welsh Harp," in this neighbourhood, all the fishable water is locked from us with the exception of a few duck ponds and ditches (these mostly on sufferance), and Liverpool anglers have to travel 30 to 50 miles away to get on anything like fair water; and this at full fares means staying at home to the majority. And this is what I repeat I shall do, although I have the chance and the leisure to go a-fishing, and for the reason that the Railway Company shall not reap any benefit—from me at least—of their retrograde and arbitrary policy, and also because I should in a manner feel as if I were committing treason by those who will be compelled to stay behind by reason of the abolition of the cheap fares.—I am, &c.,

June, 11th, 1884. R. WOOLFALL, Hon. Sec.

[While fully sympathising with Mr. Woolfall and the Liverpool anglers generally, and regretting that they have lost all their privileges, we must repeat that they are only ruining any chance there may be of regaining them by advocating a policy of defiance. Of course this is only our opinion, and we do not intend to argue the point with Mr. Woolfall; but we may inform him and all who believe in a policy of defiance, that when prominent London anglers recently interviewed leading Railway officials, they were warned that the continued agitation of the matter in the papers was opening the eyes of other bodies of sportsmen, naturalists, club cyclists, &c., to the fact that anglers were favoured above any other class of the community, and demands for similar privileges were being made by these bodies in consequence. The cyclists alone number over two hundred thousand—they continually use the railways—are often compelled to by the state of the roads. As the companies would be compelled to refuse any general demand for privilege tickets, and could only do so by refusing to issue any at all—the obvious inference is that the best and soundest policy for anglers to follow is to quietly and carefully keep what they have and endeavour in like manner to regain what they have lost.—ED.]

THE "CARMICHAEL BOOT TREE," &c.

SIR,—I see in your last issue "F.R.C.S." asks about the "Carmichael" tree. I have only used them for shoes, but find them very useful. Put on a thick old woollen sock, and put them in, and blow them out, if needful, with a small bellows, as supplied by my old "provider," George Cording, and next day the boots or shoes will be quite dry and firm. I perspire freely in the foot, which induced me to try the trees. As to waders, I like George Cording's boots better than any for home work; they last far longer than any others I have seen. I pay five shillings extra for extra quality of rubber, and have never yet had cause to repent of it. For mere fishing, I think Mr. Cording makes a sort of stocking, with leather boot or brogue attached, very handy for carriage, being very light, with felt soles if desired. Anything I have ever

had from George Cording has been excellent; the only fault I have to find is a good one—they lasted one almost too long. One coat in constant use in rain, five years; one seven, still good, though used as a keeper's summer night coat. These things speak for themselves.—I am, &c., CHAS. C. CAPEL.

Cray Fishery, Foor's Cray, Kent, June 15.

[The "Carmichael Boot Tree" is simply an admirable invention, and with the bellows, as Mr. Capel suggests, any pressure can be put on.—ED.]

DYE HACKLES.—"LITTLE CUSS."—THE ENLARGEMENT.

SIR,—"Eastern," in your issue of June 7, advises "G. B." to tie his hackles in bunches previous to putting them in dye pots. Allow me to point out a better way; it is to put them in small boxes of perforated zinc; the feathers can then be examined as often as needed, and are easier washed when the requisite colour is obtained. The box requires boiling in a solution of water and Hudson's dry soap after using to take out the dye, or it dries on; and the next time you use it, the dye, if a different colour, is spoiled as well as the feathers.

As we may expect the "little cuss" to make its appearance very soon, I have been making a few specimens, and inclose you a few—three red, three orange, and three very dark olive bodied. Of course they can be made with any colour of silk, but I have been unable to obtain any white or dun hackles small enough. If you will examine the specimens inclosed, you will find they have a peculiar metallic gloss on the hackles. They are tied on the smallest hooks I could procure. Very pleased to read you are to increase the size of the *GAZETTE*.—I am, &c., S. HOWARTH.

184, Station Road, Burton-on-Trent.

P.S.—I keep the "Marston Rod" in stock.

[The "Midgets" are excellent, and dressed on the best small hooks we have seen for a long time. We should advise Mr. H. to send a few of these "midgets" to Mr. Francis M. Walbran, Poole, Wharfedale, Yorks., and ask him to try them. We do not know any water where the "anglers' curse" is more numerous or more exasperating than on the Wharfe.—ED.]

DRY v. WET FLY-FISHING.—THE "WHITCHURCH DUN."

SIR,—I should be glad to know the dressing of the "Whitchurch" fly spoken of by "Silver Doctor" in his interesting letter on the "Dry or Wet Fly." In your foot-note you ask when the dry fly system came into practice or was invented. For many years I fished with a professional fly tier and practical angler, who also acted as my attendant, and frequently, when we could not take a certain fish in a still part of the river (having tried every likely fly), we resorted to a dry fly, and often with success, and we did this from noticing that we often took a fish upon our first throwing our flies or a fresh fly when changing. Still, I admit, we did not think of following up the practice of throwing a dry fly only as a last resource. No doubt many anglers have had the same experience. Who first made public or advocated the dry fly system I do not know. I heard of it first in Winchester about 1877, but I do not remember who in particular spoke of it, though I feel pretty sure Mr. Marryat was one who advocated it, but how long he had been in the habit of using the dry fly I cannot say. Having generally fished in rapidly-running streams, which are not adapted to the dry fly, I did not feel the necessity, until I fished the Itchen at Winchester, where I soon found different tactics must be resorted to, and that I must first find a feeding fish and then throw a dry fly in order to have a chance of taking it. Of course these remarks do not apply when the water is disturbed by wind or rain.—I am, &c., W. T. H.

Bakewell, June 16.

[We remember the dry fly in use at Winchester many years before 1877. Perhaps Mr. Marryat, or Mr. Mann, or Captain Turle, or some other old Hampshire angler may remember when the system of fishing chiefly for rising fish with a dry fly and drying the fly between each cast came into fashion.—ED.]

EYED HOOKS, GOLDEN HACKLES, &c.

SIR,—Allow me to make a correction in my letter of May 31st, which though not of any importance to the general public, I think is due to Mr. Hall.

After consultation as to preliminary patterns, it was he (not I) who undertook to write to Hutchinson and Son for sample hooks, and placed our first joint order. The hooks then made were eyed "sneck" bends; afterwards the pattern was altered to "Limerick" bend, and Mr. Hall got the hooks perfected by the addition of the sneck twist to the Limerick bend, now so well known.

I am much obliged to "Eastern" for his receipt for dying white hackles a golden yellow, which I will try if I do not find natural ones of the kind required.

The peculiar point I desire is the lustre of the golden pheasant topping in a suitable feather for hackles. I had experience in Scotland last autumn of the unusual preference of sea trout and loch trout for a fly (well known in the South as an excellent small trout fly), which I dressed as an experiment on the larger sizes of hooks for that style of sport, as, when using this on a cast with various other well-known patterns I took four out of five fish with it, all through my excursion.

I think I can still further improve the pattern if I can obtain suitable hackles; but there is a dullness of colour about all fowl hackles, which (though desirable in small trout flies) is the reverse of what I am aiming at in the larger fly, and I hope some salmon fly dresser may yet be able to tell me of a suitable feathers. Yellow macaw side or breast looks about the right shade, but I fear the feather would not be right in shape.

If I succeed, and the result is good with the fish this coming autumn, I will place the pattern at your disposal, but I have not yet seen it used as a loch or sea trout fly.—I am, &c., GEO. BANKART.

Leicester.

ROACH QUERY.

SIR,—Can any of your readers inform me the time that elapses between the spawning of roach and the appearance of the young fry?—I am, &c., J. H.

[It depends on the temperature, but ranges between 4 and 10 days.—ED.]

GEORGE JAMES EATON, of Starkholmes, Matlock-Bath, Derbyshire, respectfully invites Noblemen and Gentlemen to try his standard FLIES for the present season. No flies sent or made up but what he himself has proved sure killers. A trial is all that is required, from gentlemen who can fish, to prove whether they may be genuine or not. Patronised by some of the best fishermen of the day. All flies dressed on the best Kendal hooks. Prices: Point Flies, 2s. 6d. per Dozen; Dropper Flies, 2s. per Dozen. Orders punctually attended to.—(ADVT.)

SALMON & TROUT-FISHING

CHAS. FARLOW & Co.

191, STRAND, London, W.C.

MANUFACTURERS OF FIRST-CLASS RODS AND TACKLE,
SALMON AND TROUT FLIES, SUITABLE FOR
ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD.

Mahseer Tackle in Great Variety.

Makers of Split Cane Rods.

Improved Folding Trout Landing Nets.
(Very Light).

New Patent Lever Salmon Winch
(Can be regulated to any stiffness at will).

Brown's Phantom Minnows.

CATALOGUES GRATIS. PRIZE MEDALS. IMPORTERS OF
SILKWORM GUT.

JAMES OGDEN,

28, WINCHCOMB STREET, CHELTENHAM,

PRACTICAL ANGLER, FLY DRESSER, AND MANUFACTURER
OF EVERY DESCRIPTION OF FISHING TACKLE.

James Ogden's Newly-Invented Premier Spinner,

Regd. Nov. 13th, 1883. This Bait is constructed upon an entire'y new and
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These Waters
are supplied

To the Queen.

Table Waters

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in this or other parts of this paper; but beg our readers to expose any case of im-
position. The prices for inserting advertisements in this "EXCHANGE"
Column are 6d. per line for one, or 4d. per line for more than one insertion.
Address Manager, FISHING GAZETTE, 12 and 13, Fetter Lane, London, and send
stamps with the order, or the advertisement cannot be inserted.

WANTED.—Particulars and prices of Secondhand Books on Angling and Fish Culture.
Must be in good condition—Address Editor, FISHING GAZETTE, 12 and 13, Fetter Lane,
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Superior Trout Flies, 8d. per dozen. See Editor's Notice, March 22nd, 1884. Special
terms to Fishing Tackle Houses. J. Palmer, Littleworth, Redditch.

The Pocket Fly Case, containing one dozen best Trout Flies, 1s., free.—Palmer, Red-
ditch.

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RIVER REPORTS.

TIME OF HIGH WATER IN THE THAMES.

To find the time of high water in the Thames at any of the following places,
to the time of high water at London Bridge (given below).

30 minutes for Chelsea.
40 " " Putney.
45 " " Hammersmith.
50 " " Barnes.
55 " " Kew.
75 " " Richmond.
80 " " Twickenham.
85 " " Teddington.

Example:—If it is high water at 2 o'clock at London Bridge, it will be high
water at Teddington about 3.25, or eighty-five minutes later; but it must be
remembered that a strong wind accelerates or retards the tide very much.

For TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.

	Morning.	Afternoon.
Saturday, June 21	11.52	12.0
Sunday, " 22	12.23	12.50
Monday, " 23	1.18	1.45
Tuesday, " 24	2.10	2.38
Wednesday, " 25	3.2	3.27
Thursday, " 26	3.51	4.16
Friday, " 27	4.40	5.3

NOTE.—New moon, June 23; high tide, June 25.

THE LOWER THAMES.

It was anticipated several good trout would be taken before the commence-
ment of the general angling season, and the following appears to be the
result. George Rosewell is credited with four—one at Shepperton of 13 lb.,
another at Shepperton of 8 lb., another at Shepperton of 4 lb., and one at
Chertsey of 9 lb. 6 oz. on four separate days; John Smith, one of 4½ lb. at Hamp-
ton Court; and a bank angler, at Kingston Railway Bridge, one of 5 lb. 7 oz.
There was a fair sprinkling of anglers on "the opening day," both in punts

and on the banks, and most of them had got fish—barbel, bream, perch, and chub predominating—above the locks. The head river-keeper of the Thames Angling Preservation Society says:—"I came down from Hampton to Twickenham on Tuesday night in the boat, and it was quite a fair—numbers of bank anglers, boats and punts fishing. Everyone appeared satisfied; making the remark to me, 'This is much better sport than we have had before.'" The river is much in want of rain before any great takes will be made.

Richmond.

Kit Brown, in one day, eighteen roach, a bream of 2½ lb. and four perch, weighing 3 lb.; and Henry Mansell 8 lb. of roach and dace. One of the bank anglers got a barbel of 7 lb. and another of 4 lb.

Twickenham.

Mr. A. J. Little, in one day, with Richard Coxen, one jack, of 4 lb., and another of 5 lb., and, in addition, hooking one estimated at 18 lb., and another of 2 lb.—both breaking away; Mr. W. Walker eighteen fish; and Mr. George Coxen two dozen of roach and dace.

Teddington.

Joseph Baldwin, in two days, sixteen chub, from 2 lb. each; F. Kempson on the first day three barbel, weighing 27 lb., and seven chub. Two of the bank anglers got a couple of barbel of 3 lb., and another bank angler a chub of 2½ lb.

Kingston.

Mr. H. Frayling, on the first day, with John Johnson, sen., two barbel of about 2 lb. each, three eels, and a trout of 6 lb. John Johnson, jun., got some eels, two barbel, and one bream. A private boat at the Sewer, four dozen of roach and dace, and one jack. Benjamin Pope, in two days, 2½ dozen of roach and a barbel of 3 lb.

East Moulsey.

Mr. Keeling and son, fishing with William Milbourne, on the first day, ten barbel, weighing 30 lb.; William Milbourne, another day, four dozen of very fine gudgeon; Thomas Wheeler, seven chub, one barbel, and a small trout, which was returned to the river again. There is a fine show of barbel at the Weir.

Chertsey.

James Haslett, in one day, three bream, five eels, and a brace of chub, weighing 5 lb.; and James Haslett, jun., two small chub and two trout—one of 3 lb. and the other, being too small, was put back again.

Staines.

A gentleman, with G. Osman, on the first day, thirteen chub and barbel, weighing together 20 lb. Mr. Burrows, at Penton Hook, a trout of 5 lb.; John Keene, jun., a trout of 3 lb. and ten barbel; J. Keene, one barbel and one eel; a gentleman fishing from a boat, a fine trout of 10 lb.; Mr. G. Rowles, at the Bell Weir, one trout of 9 lb. and another of 3½ lb.; and a gentleman, one trout of 6 lb. and another of 3 lb.

Shepperton.

A party of the Thames Angling Preservation Society, fishing on Monday last, with eight punts, caught but very few fish, the water being very low and in bad condition, and likely to remain so for want of rain.—F. PURDUE.

Docket Point.

Best bream, 5 lb. My first day's fishing, three bream, two chub, five eels; J. Haslett, jun., first day, two trout (one 3 lb. the other about 1 lb., put back), two small chub (put back); myself, on Wednesday, with a gentleman, one bream, one perch, three small chub (put back). Plenty of fish here—barbel jumping all over the place, bream rolling about. If any gentlemen were to walk quietly up the tow-path, they would see for themselves. Water very low. A good rain would do good. Several fine roach and barbel lying about dead. I hope to send you better news next week.—JAMES HASLETT.

Walton.

The fishing season commenced here on Monday last, and a more unfavourable day could not well have been imagined. The wind was bitterly cold, from the north-east, and at times difficult to keep the lines in the water, consequently the takes of fish were small, although a number of punts were out. The largest share seems to have fallen to Watford punt. A nice sheltered position was taken up, and the party (Field and Wyeth) succeeded in capturing three dozen of roach, some nearly 1 lb. weight, and a barbel, between 2 and 3 lb. A gentleman staying at the Swan, Walton, took four barbel, one over 4 lb. Another gentleman, also staying at the Swan, had an adventure with a very large Thames trout. He was spinning for pike, and was crossing the deep between the Swan and the Bridge, when a huge trout took the pike bait and parted the gimp just above the hook, taking them away with him. It is very improbable that the fish would have been lost had the angler been prepared for it, as the tackle was very strong. A very fine Thames trout has taken up his quarters in Tumbling Bay, between Sunbury and Walton, where he may be seen almost any evening playing about and rising below the fall. Tuesday the weather was still most unfavourable. Five gentlemen were out from the Swan, but their baskets were all right. Wednesday: the weather was better, and some nice baskets were taken, but details have not come to hand in time for this report. Thursday: the water above Sunbury fell several feet, and barges and boats were left high and dry. I have not yet ascertained the cause.—GOLDFINCH.

UPPER THAMES.

The opening day (Monday) of all-round angling was not particularly conducive to sport, as a cold north-east wind had been blowing for many hours; consequently the temperature of the water was too low for big takes. One excellent roacher on Monday evening told me that he had tried every likely nook and corner between Marlow and Medmenham, and had only taken two dozen respectable sized fish. Punts have been particularly busy for the last three days, but as far as I can glean little has been accomplished amid the coarse fish—rain in fact is much needed, after which I am sure I shall have to tell you of some thumping baskets, as the Thames I am sure, in consequence of careful supervision, is full of white fish. At Hambledon a fine trout of 9½ lbs. has been had by Neale, of Henley; and near Reading, a nice trout of 7½ lbs., has been landed by Mr. F. S. Stone, of Mill House, girth 15½ inches, length 25 inches, thus proving it to have been a grand specimen of a Thames fish. At Marlow, at a recent meeting of the Angling Association, a new head bailiff was elected in the place of Gray resigned, and several desirable

alterations made in the rules and regulations of this excellent angling society. Thursday evening.—Weather inclined for rain, wind chopping about from west to north-east. River in fair all-round summer trim, but a wee bit too bright and stale.—MARLOW BUZZ.

Goring.

Water now getting in good order for jack and perch. Jack not on much, perch biting very well, and so are gudgeon, roach coming on a little. Best day—two dozen of perch, one jack, and a lot of gudgeon.—JOHN RUSH.

Datchet.

The water is very low, and up to the present the fishing has not been of a very favourable character. Mr. Lock, High Street, took a trout on the 16th, in Boveney Weir, 5 lb. H. Hoare has had one or two barbel, but not any size; was out on the 17th and 18th; a few dace were the only result after three swims, baited two with greaves and one with worms; we had a few good bites with the worm, but didn't catch them. One of the swims I baited with greaves, as it was the wish of my best customer: not even had a nibble at it—just as I expected. They are not in the deeps yet. One hour on Thursday, at the other, promises fine success—mid-day, four dozen of dace and one barbel 7 lb.

Ancholme District.

As I am away for a holiday, no Ancholme or Riverhead notes have yet come to hand, but I am glad to hear the most encouraging accounts of success in stocking Croxby Lake. The first fry were put therein from the Manor fishery in February of last year, and four fish have recently been taken of the following weights:—Two of ½ lb. each, one of ¾ lb., and one of 1 lb. I can hardly believe the good news respecting this last fish. Is not this an astonishing growth for sixteen months? It is true the lake is large (perhaps 18 or 20 acres), and the food is most abundant. The only results which I ever saw to approach these were Mr. Silk's yearlings at the late Fisheries Exhibition.—THOMAS FORD.

Ballynahinch.

For this last fortnight very little has been done on the above. Waters are very low. Mr. Sutherland and Colonel Briden are the only two anglers at present, who have only got six salmon for that time. A good show of salmon are in the bay, but cannot run; also trout are showing this day or two.—WALTER BLACKADDER.

Chichester.

During the recess our local Anglers have been busy among the smelt and small bass at the harbour, while at Littlehampton the mullet and bass have afforded some excellent sport. The Canal is this season teeming with small fry, in my opinion far too numerous. Sport among the larger members has been fairly good, some nice roach up to 1¼ lb., and bream to 2½ lb. having been landed. Some good perch have been seen; heavy carp are well known to be in the bridge holes at Budham, and in the basin, while pike are not wanting, giving hopes of a successful season. May they be realised!—G. F. SALTER.

Darenth (Farningham).

I had two afternoons recently at the Lion Hotel water, and got a brace of sizable fish each time, and on a neighbouring bit of water I got another brace another afternoon, and returned others. Nothing very startling, but may serve to show that even a poor angler may, with perseverance, take a brace or two of trout in Kent. Fine quill gnat fished dry was used, and I had no landing net. I must congratulate Mr. Geen on the manner in which he is succeeding in uniting London anglers.—J. TAYLOR.

Dee (Aberdeenshire).

Throughout the whole of last week the blue charm, yellow wasp, dodger, and Jock Scott have been the best killing flies. The takes generally have been rather poor. Now we expect better sport, for the river has risen, and grilse have ascended in perfect shoals. Thirty fish is a common shot for some of the river nets, and yesterday, within the twenty-four hours, as many as 900 fish were landed at the six river stations. On the 15th inst. there was a splendid run up the river. Fishing ought, therefore, to be very good in a few days. On Monday of the present week Captain Styles landed one grilse on the Woodend Fishery, and three on Tuesday. On the Inchmarlo water, Craven, keeper, got one grilse. At Bridge of Feugh, Wright had one last week. David Rae, at Cairnton, had four salmon during the past week, and one fish this week. On the Crathes water, on Monday of last week, Geo. Bremner had one fish, 10 lb., and on Monday of this week one trout, 2 lb. On the Kincardine O'Neil sections only four salmon, 7 to 9 lb., were got for the week. The *Aberdeen Journal* reports that on the Aboyne Castle water two salmon, 7 and 9 lb., were landed during the week. On the Huntly Lodge water one salmon 11 lb. was got. On the Aboyne Hotel water two salmon 6 and 9 lb. were got. On the Glentanar water on Monday three salmon, from 5 to 11 lb.; on Tuesday four salmon, from 6 to 13 lb.; and one grilse 3 lb.; on Wednesday four salmon, from 6 to 10 lb.; on Thursday two salmon, 7 and 9 lb.; on Friday one salmon, 14 lb.; on Saturday three salmon, from 7 to 11 lb.; This is the worst week's sport on this water since the opening. On the Cambus o' May and Ballater sections very poor sport was got, only a few salmon from 6 to 13 lb. being landed for the week. Blackhall Castle water, Watson, keeper, Wednesday of the present week, had one very nice fish. On the same day in Woodend, Captain Styles landed one grilse, 4 lb. Report of George Smith, sadler and tackle manufacturer, Ballater, last week—Monaltrie—Col. Keen, four fish of 9, 11, 18 and 24 lb. Tuesday, 2 fish, 9 and 11 lb. Invercauld Arms Hotel water—Mr. Simmons, Thursday, one fish, 8 lb. Monaltrie water—Lieut. Gordon, Tuesday, one fish, 7 lb. Captain Napier, Monday 16th, one grilse, 2 lb. Invercauld Arms Hotel water—Tuesday, J. H. Nicolls, Esq., one fish 9 lb. Mr. Simmons, on 16th, two fish, 7 and 8 lb. Mrs. Simmons, two fish, 8 and 10 lb. Fungoid is still prevailin g.—W.M.

Dove.

We have had a much more favourable time for angling this week than last. The copious rains improved the condition of our river immensely, not only bringing on a nice rise, but putting a fair quantity of colour into the water. Sport has been remunerative accordingly, much more so than the week before. The green drake is now out in large quantities, and the trout have been rising at it famously. We have had large numbers of rodsters out daily both on the private and public waters, and the trout dishes have not amounted to less than six brace per rod. Capital sport is being secured on the Norbury and Okeover lengths. The coarse fish season opened on Monday, and barbel are now on the gravelly shallows in great numbers. I think the season will be a good one.—THE SPLODGE.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

Eden (Armthwaite).

The river has been so very low for the last fortnight that little sport could be expected, except at night. Some pretty good baskets have been got. Last week the yearly competition of the Armthwaite Club took place, when the prizes were again carried off by the Rev. Edward Bowman, Vicar of Alston. This is the fourth year the same gentleman has been victorious. The members all dined at the Red Lion Hotel, Armthwaite. The Carlisle Association as well have held their annual fishing competition. Mr. Stubbs, of Carlisle, took twenty-one trout above Armthwaite. The members afterwards dined at the Lion and Lamb, Carlisle, and spent a pleasant evening.—SKIDDAW.

Eden (Carlisle).

The river is still at low summer level. There were five or six inches of fresh water in it on the 8th inst., but this was only the result of a thunder shower on Saturday evening, and it soon fell away again. The night fishers complain sadly of their small takes, and stick to it that the fish are not there, but are netted out. I believe the fact to be that the nights are too cold. The trout rise well enough for a while just before dark, and anyone who is skilful at the business can catch them with the fly; but, of course, they retire to their lairs as soon as the cold night air drives the midges off the water—we want warm, balmy weather for night fishing. Mr. W. G. Stubbs and Colonel Sharp have been about the most successful of the day fishers. Sam Wright, the lessee of the Cooper stream and the Black Square Post, spins a good yarn of an adventure he had on Tuesday night. He says he was bustard-fishing at Brocklenath. About 11 o'clock, seeing a good "boil" under some bushes, he threw over it, and feeling the line stop, struck sharply, and found he was into something very like a tree, except that it seemed to go down and run along the bottom vigorously. "A salmon, I hope; a big chub, I doubt; an otter, by Jove!" Sure enough, he had a young otter by the cheek. For a while he gave him line, following himself as well as he could, till it struck him the beast would not be a desirable acquaintance to "shake hands" with, so he held on like grim death, and off went young Mr. Otter with poor Sam's bustard tackle. He is now advertising that if any brother angler should come across his friend, he will be glad if he will catch him, gently remove the hook from his cheek, and restore the tackle to the rightful owner. A poem on the subject will be given as a reward.—SILVER GREY.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

The Annual Handicap Competition of the Carlisle Angling Association took place on Tuesday. It was a 5s. Sweepstake as usual. Only six competitors entered, a smaller number than in any previous year. The water was dead-low, and the day fine without wind, or the weights would have been heavier. The prizes were all won with the worm. The result was—1st. D. Ainslie; 2nd. W. J. Stubbs; 3rd. Geo. Potter. With reference to my notes of last week, I hear that Sam Wright has got his bustard tackle back. It was found on Monday night sticking to "The Plunger's" legs, when fishing in that part of the Dean and Chapter's water which has lately become open to all, and is now called Republican Water. The said "Plunger" demands his poem, and Sam says he will have one ready for the next General Meeting of the Association.—SILVER GREY.

Exe (Exeter).

Since my last report some fine trout have been taken, the writer having three, averaging $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. each, with the red spinner and black palmer. Mr. Allen, six; and Mr. Ellis, near the railway station, four roach, averaging $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. each. Rain badly wanted. Flies now taking red spinner, dark palmer with silver twist, and blue bottle dapping. I hear one boy captured a trout on one of our weirs, $3\frac{1}{2}$ lb., immediately realising 4s. from a bystander. Another had a salmon half dead, so that you may imagine we want water badly, or our spirits will go down.—J. A. KELLEY.

Exe (Tiverton).

The river is now lower than it has been for some years. The bed of the stream in some places is almost dry, and fish are driven to the pools where they sport in the evening. Some very fair catches have been made within the past week. The flies taking best are the fern web, cowdung, red ant, and May dun.—WM. MUDFORD.

Ilfracombe.

Freshwater fishing: I have made inquiries about trout-fishing around here, and find that those who enjoy the sport are loth to give any information regarding it. There have been a few fine trout taken from the stream up Torr's Bottom. Sea fishing: For a few days the wind has been blowing strong from N.N.E., on the shore, but a few boating parties have ventured out and returned with fair catches. On Monday a gentleman fishing from a boat off the Capstone, caught about 10 lb. whiting pout; and a visitor fishing from the jetty caught a fine cod, and Mr. Keall, the chemist, caught a large skate. Wednesday evening: Mr. Gratte, fishing from the jetty, caught 50 lb. of pollack and ling, and a quantity of small pout are caught from the rocks; several lobsters and crabs are taken from the pots and rocks. Weather at present fine.—E. COMER.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

Lodden.

Trout are rising splendidly and some good fish have been taken, but the chub and dace are a nuisance, three and four of these to one trout. We commenced by returning them to the river; but as they still came, we gave them to some farm boys, who were highly pleased with their gifts. Rain wanted badly.—F. GOSDEN.

Lugg and Arrow.

The fishing in these streams has been very good this week, the water being clear, but very low; and the anglers of this part are now all crying out for rain, which is greatly needed, at present. After last week's rain, the fish were rising and biting freely at the fly. The best flies on the water are the orle, governor, and coachman; and some very good fish have been taken with them. Several gentlemen have visited the Lugg, at Aymestry, and several very nice lots of trout have been taken with the fly. Mr. Wigmore has landed several nice lots of trout; and one rod landed fifteen brace of grand trout (all in good condition), with the fly, in one day. Fishing in the Lugg, below the town, a gentleman on Friday took a splendid lot of fine trout with the orle and coachman. In the Arrow, some splendid trout were taken with the governor. The Arrow was tried on Saturday with the orle, and some very good trout were landed, as the fish were biting at them freely. In the Lugg, some very good sport was had, and a very nice lot of trout were landed with the fly. The fish in the Lugg on Monday were biting well at the coachman and governor. One gentleman took a splendid lot of trout, and another took a nice dish of trout with the orle. In the Arrow, a very nice lot of fish were

taken with the fly the same day. Tuesday, the sun not being too hot, a gentleman visited the Arrow with the fly, and took a very nice lot of trout, some weighing $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. each. The Lugg was tried the same day, and a few nice fish were landed with the coachman. The Pinsley is in good fishing order, and some very fine trout were landed on Saturday with the governor, and some nice fish were taken with the fly on Tuesday. Some very fine fish have been landed in the Shobden waters with the fly. A few fish have been taken in the Ivington district this week.—GWYNNE.

Lynn.

River very low, but trout have been sporting well for the last week to the grub, such as woodlice, fernwell, caddy, &c.; the hotter the day and the river bright, better the trout will take the grub, and will sure to take the largest fish. A fisherman yesterday took 6 lb., and several weighed from 8 to 10 oz., the best basket of fish I have seen this season.—W. B.

Anglers busy on the opening day. One member of the Cambridge, Ely and Newmarket Society took a chub of 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb.; another took a brace of trout, largest 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. These are being preserved by Mr. Howlett, of Newmarket, who by the bye, had sent to him on Monday one of those rare and beautiful birds, the Roller, shot on Newmarket Heath on Saturday last. Everything looks well for the season here; the river keeper is busy, and there are tons of fish in both the Lark, Cam, and Ouse. The Great Eastern Railway have kindly granted privilege tickets to members, and the society have now extended their waters to Brandon, Lakenheath, &c. Tickets for season or day can be obtained of Mr. Howlett, High Street, Newmarket, 5s. for the season with privilege of travelling at reduced fares, or 2s. 6d. for season without this privilege.—F. G. EASTWELL.

Medway (Tonbridge).

The season opened on Monday in a most favourable manner, and many devoted anglers turned out quite by midnight on the 15th. The principal rendezvous was as usual at the Powder Mill Lodge, where two tents were pitched in case of rain. There was, however, no need for this, as the night was as warm as possible. Soon after a start was made a pike was landed, and then chub were taken in some quantity, and of good size; and, what was the most extraordinary event, several exceedingly good bream were taken in fast water with a worm. Mr. Gray, as usual, provided a most grateful breakfast, which was greatly appreciated. Those who secured fish were Messrs. J. A. Snelling, W. Ede, G. West, J. Stanley, J. Turner, H. F. Buley, and our secretary, who had between 50 and 60 lb. between them, consisting of pike, perch, chub, and bream. There were large numbers of anglers on other parts of the river, but the only catches we have heard recorded were Mr. Buley and Mr. Leonard abreast town, and Wynne below the latter, having a nice bag of pike. With the present warm weather bream and roach will be on feed on baited swims, while chub will be taken with a fly or with olive bait on fast water.—YE MEDWAY WATER RAT.

Moy and Lough Conn (Ballina).

The sport on river and lough last week was from one to three salmon a day to a rod. This week there has been a falling off, owing to low water and dead calm sultry weather. A good stirring breeze would revive the sport again. Plenty of fish in river and lough.—FRANK HEARNS.

Nene (Northampton).

A great number of anglers have been trying the roach, but little sport has been had. It has been the best spawning season I have known in our old river for twenty years. On Monday B. Oxley and a few friends had a good day's sport in a bit of private water not far from home, killing ten brace of pike, largest 4 lb., seven tench, and a few perch. Bill Williams, member of the Nene Angling Club, had a good bag of eels on Monday in the lower water of the above. On Tuesday T. Lawman landed one and a half brace of pike. H. Smith has been taking some nice perch and pike in the Northampton Working Men's Angling Water.—T. F.

Ouse (Huntingdon).

The water still keeps in good condition, but not much doing. On the 16th, one chub, 4 lb., one jack, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb., and one smaller were taken, and on the 17th a few small bream, but nothing much since. The bream were taken with small red worms, and feeding very shy, owing to the water being very quiet, and no rain to cause a little stream. No doubt but what the fish want a little fresh water, which will do a great deal of good. I don't think many bream will be taken during the present month.

Severn (Kidderminster).

I have not much news again this week. Fishing is at a complete standstill; even at early morn or late at night the same complaint—Can't take a fish or stir a fin; but an angler is always hopeful, and knows there's a better time coming if he only knew the date. One of our men was out on the 15th, and plying the rod at six in the morning, succeeded in taking four trout and a few white fish; another, using the worm, took a perch two pounds and over, but like a good angler that he was, returned it to its native element. Another angler of ours, J. Giles, whilst fishing in the Stour, which runs through Kidderminster, hooked a trout, and killed it with single horse-hair, after a quarter of an hour's good fight, the fish being in splendid condition. We, the United Brothers, had a meeting on Tuesday, anent the Freshwater Fisheries. Some wanted to abolish the netting altogether; some thought that that course would be too sweeping, though at the same time they were no friends to the nets, but thought it would be doing away with the living of many poor men, so the meeting was adjourned until next Monday evening. I am sorry to say we shall not be represented at that most important meeting at London. I was surprised when I learned that the Birmingham anglers knew nothing of this London meeting. I did my best for them in sending to the clerk of the Board for circulars. Whether they succeeded in getting them I cannot say. Further particulars another time.—E. EARP, hon. sec.

Taw and Tributaries (North Devon).

The rain of the 7th inst. was the means of bringing many fishermen to the river side, in the hopes of getting some yellow bodies, but only a few of the ardent ones were successful; being early and in the rain, managed to get a few good catches. One gentleman got three and half dozen, another two dozen, another four dozen, in the Bray and Yeo. Two gentlemen fishing in the Lower (three guinea ticket) Taw, took two and three dozen, with the blue upright; and further up the Taw some few peal and salmon were taken. Two good days of rain would make the peal and salmon run up. Flies taking—blue upright and maggot, with Outcliffe's fly.—RUSTY GAME.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

Teme (Ludlow).

The Teme and all its tributaries are clear and fine, and some good fishing has been had all round this district during the week. From Ludford Bridge to Leintwardine waters, at Trippleton, fishermen have paid good attention to the Teme. Some good fish have been landed near Mr. Collings Mill. Sixteen fine trout were caught up Oakley Park by a gent with the orle on Monday; the lot weighed 12½ lb., and were in prime condition. In the Saltmoor quarter a gentleman on Tuesday hooked two very nice trout 1½ lb. each with the caddow. A few fish landed towards Barrett's Mill. On Monday in Leintwardine Club waters, R. W. Harley Esq., of Brampton, Brian Hall, landed 4½ brace of grand trout with the fly, he also since last report secured several good baskets of fish. The water is very low and bright, and the May fly has been very scarce on the club waters this year, and the "orle" is the principal fly at present going. G. E. Martin, Esq., Ham Court, and G. Hornyard, Esq., Blackmore Court, visited the club waters on Tuesday and had good sport. The waters of the Clun are very low, but up at Clungunford some good fish have been caught, but the waters are now getting too fine for the angler. We hear of H. Crawshaw, Esq., of Stonner Hall, T. W. Sitwell, Esq., and Colonel Ryler, visiting the Clun at Clungunford recently, and making some splendid baskets, one rod landing 15 brace of splendid trout. At the latter end of last week, a gent fishing up the Corve above Felton caught 25 good trout with the governor, orle, and blue dun. On Monday evening while fishing in Mr. Lloyd's meadow at the mouth of the Corve, R. Nash caught two trout, one weighing 15oz., the other 18oz., with the "Harry long legs." Fair sport in the Onibury waters this week with the orle, governor, and coachman.—S. LUDLOW.

Trent (Newark).

Sport for the opening week has not been very brilliant; the water was remarkably low, and the wind north-east (principally so, however); to say nothing of the bottom being covered with a rich carpet of flannel-weed. This combination of circumstances rendered fishing very disagreeable; even eels and flounders would not bite at all freely. One or two anglers had fairish baskets of those fish; but the majority did next to nothing. One angler that I saw had a good bag of roach and white bream, taken with the cad bait; and the bulk of those fish were in capital condition—in fact, as clean as they have been in some previous years at the latter end of July. A large weed-bed, just below the bottom lock, Newark, was on the 15th and 16th inst. literally alive with large carp bream, cleaning themselves; and the way these fish threaded the weeds and rolled on the surface was a treat to witness; but I am sadly afraid, from what I heard, that some of them fell victims to the netting fraternity. Fly-fishing for dace and chub should be productive of a little sport; while for bottom-fishers the cad bait and worms will be the most likely to secure a bag of fish. Water still very low. Weather looks like rain, which is sadly wanted in the valley of the Trent.—THE TRENT OTTER.

Waveney (Beccles).

After what seems to me long silence, it is with great pleasure I am able again to send you reports of doings on the Waveney. It has been very gratifying to observe how the majority of anglers have given up their only pleasure, so that they should not disturb the fish during the spawning operations, and by not taking the fish the stock must necessarily increase. I say great credit is due to such anglers as have so rigidly observed the close season. Angling may now be again commenced in earnest, as the fish have entirely finished spawning, and, in fact, most of them are quite clean. Since sending you my last report some takes of good fish have come to my knowledge, roach weighing 1 lb. and upwards; and to-day, had the pleasure of seeing a perch weighing 2 lb. 3 oz. This was taken on an eel line, with eel for bait (of course, not intended for perch). I simply mention the above to show that there is some good fishing to be had. The friendly competition, Caxton v. Beccles Town Angling Club, will take place next Saturday, and you will probably know results in next issue.—A WAVENEY ANGLER.

Wharfe (Yorkshire).

This river is lower at the present time than I ever remember having seen it; in some parts near Pool you can walk across dry shod; it is to be hoped that rain will fall before long, or else I am afraid that the fish will suffer greatly. Except for eel fishing it is no use turning out until 8.30 p.m., when a brace or two of trout may be taken with the fly; I instructed Mr. Cummins, of Bishop Auckland, to dress me six patterns of special midge flies for this class of fishing, and have found them answer admirably; I hope before long to write an article on flies for the summer months, and will then give the correct dressing for these patterns; I have also found a fly dressed for me by Mr. S. Suttle, of Otley, answer very well in the evening. For the benefit of those anglers who may require really reliable worms, either for upstream trout fishing or for eels, I may mention that Mr. Fletcher, of Bond Street, Leeds, always has a good stock on hand; they are tough, well scoured, and good colour, as I can speak from experience; the same gentleman also has always a good selection of baits for trolling on hand.—FRANCIS M. WALBRAN.

Wye and Derwent.

During the latter end of last week there was a great deal of thunder. Rain fell in some parts of Derbyshire, which caused the Derwent to have a very nice nut-brown colour on it on Monday, which was the cause of a very great quantity of bottom fishermen being out on the Derwent, between Rowsley and Matlock Bath; and one and all of them had nice baskets of trout—in fact, the fish were biting like mad the first thing in the morning, and baskets up to 10 lb. were caught, mostly with ant eggs for baits. Messrs. Crowder, Smith, Buckley, &c., did well, on the Darley Dale Club water especially, early in the morning, viz., from 4 a.m. to 6 a.m. The trollers, with the Derby trout killer, have killed a fair quantity of good trout on the Derwent. I have just received a letter from the Feathers Hotel, Corwen, South Wales. D. P. Pearson, Esq., of Nottingham, who has been staying at this hotel for a little fishing, writes me thus: "I got thirty-nine fine trout in one afternoon with the Derby trout killer, and some good dishes with the fly yellow dun." Sport with the artificial flies, both on the Wye and Derwent, has been first-class during the week, especially on an evening; and baskets of from 5 brace up to 11½ brace per angler have been made. The killing flies have been chiefly the yellow dun, dotterel, black gnat, red-ribbed, with gold finish, sand flies; also the small Derbyshire green drakes have taken a few fish. The floating May flies are a complete failure in Derbyshire again this season. The dibbing fraternity have taken some good dishes of large trout, in the middle of the day, with the natural oak fly, corn lady, and small house flies. One angler killed 9 brace yesterday (Wednesday), and several of the fish were 1 lb. apiece. Fly-fishing in Derbyshire is now first-class, especially on an evening; and for about an hour the last thing at night the yellows come down the Derwent as thick as hail—in fact, by thousands, and the fish rising at them like mad. I hear there

was a small Loch Leven trout taken by the bottom fishers below Darley Bridge. This is the first Loch Leven trout that I have ever heard of being taken out of the Derwent. Sport on the ponds has been first-class, both with fly and by bottom-fishing. The killing flies for pond are small black gnat, little red, and sand flies.—GEORGE JAMES EATON.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

Yare (Norwich).

I am pleased to be able to report that the roach on this stream are coming on nicely. One friend, last Friday, caught fifty-one fine fish, and I have heard of several fair catches of fish in very good condition. Catches of bream have been too numerous, but one of 5½ lb. was exhibited last week, and was, I am given to understand, caught on the Yare. On Monday last I met a couple of friends who had just been out for an hour and a half's tench fishing, and I was agreeably surprised, on looking into their baskets, to see twenty-seven beautiful tench; they averaged 1½ lb. each, and were taken with lob worm, in a private water within a few miles of Norwich, all caught between 5 and 7. I start, on Saturday next, for eight days' angling and sailing on this river, the Bure, and the Waveney, so trust to be in a position to send some interesting items regarding this district next week. Prospects good.—ROBERT MOLL.

CLUB REPORTS.**ACTON PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.**

At the meeting of the above society, the members heard read with regret and surprise the enclosed circular from the so-called Central Association, which we all hoped was no longer in existence, but had joined the other two associations, and was going to work for the interest of all anglers as the Anglers' Association. I can personally contradict the statement of the circular as to the amalgamation being forced upon us. What have the delegates been doing, if that is the case, to allow it? Certainly not their duty. I have attended the meetings of the West Central—first for the Portsmouth Waltonians, secondly for the Hammersmith United, and at the present time for the Acton Piscatorial Society—for this last five years, and Mr. Geen, our president, during that time has repeatedly stated that he was prepared with the other officers of the West Central and delegates to go out of existence altogether as far as angling matters are concerned, if better men could be put in their places. After well discussing the matter, the following resolution was passed: "That this Society, having received a circular from the Central Association of London angling clubs with reference to privilege tickets, wish to lodge a protest against this attempt to destroy the close alliance of the great London associations."—BLACK BAG.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

ANGLERS' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

Since my last report I beg to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of 10s. donation from Mr. J. Hopkins, late secretary Excelsior Angling Society, and 12s. 6d. from the donation box of the Cambridge Friendly Angling Society.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

BRIGHTON ANGLERS' ASSOCIATION.

Our first competition of the season took place on the 16th inst. at Barcombe, in the river Ouse. A large number turned out to pay a tribute of respect to our venerable old father "Izaak." The weather was all that could be desired, but fish were not much on the feed. Prizes fell to the following members:—1st, G. Stapleton, roach; 2nd, E. Artis, roach; 3rd, G. Heathorne, roach. Mr. George Saunders (the veteran) had bad luck. He hooked a splendid bream of between 5 and 6 lb., and had, as he thought, captured it, but when landing the same the screw of his net gave way, losing net and fish, the latter, of course, breaking away directly he was free from the net.—A. N. DOLTON, hon. sec.

CHAMPION ANGLING SOCIETY.

The members of this society held their first friendly match at Fritton Decoy on Thursday, 12th inst. The weather was everything that could be wished, and the arrangements by the excellent secretary (Mr. W. Chettleburgh) left nothing to be desired, with the exception of good sport. I am pleased to say that between ten and eleven stone (of 14 lb.) were caught, mostly bream, some of which weighed 2½ to 3 lb. After the weighing in the winners were declared as follows: 1st, Mr. Howitt; 2nd, Mr. Goreham; 3rd, Mr. Chettleburgh; 4th, Mr. Hook; 5th, Mr. Hunt; 6th, Mr. Moll; 7th, Mr. Whincop. A capital spread at Host Pettingall's brought the enjoyable outing to a close, and all those who had never seen this beautiful sheet of water expressed their surprise and delight, coupled with a determination to soon pay it another visit.

CLAPTON ANGLING SOCIETY.

The inaugural dinner of this society was held at its club-house, the Swan Hotel, Upper Clapton, on Tuesday evening last, and was a most unqualified success, nearly sixty sitting down in the spacious club-room, which was prettily dressed with flowers, ferns, &c., some splendid specimen-cases of jack, roach, &c., decorating the walls. Mr. H. J. Tibbatts was a most excellent chairman, and made some capital speeches. The loyal toasts were duly honoured, as also the healths of the members of, and success to, the "Clapton Angling Society." The secretary responded thereto, and he was most heartily cheered. Many other toasts were drunk, and music, both vocal and instrumental, followed, some first-class songs being splendidly rendered—notably, Mr. Aveling, Mr. Styles, Miss Howse, Mr. Chillingworth, Mr. Springbett, Mr. Bedford, Mr. J. Ellis, &c. Mr. C. J. Winterbottom, in his usual able manner, officiated at the piano, and Mr. Shrimpton on the violin. A most enjoyable evening was passed, and the members and their friends separated soon after twelve o'clock. On Wednesday, the ordinary weekly meeting was held, at which several members showed catches—notably Mr. J. Wood and Mr. Colls, tench and perch; Mr. Graham Bennett, roach, &c., &c. The society are negotiating for a capital stretch of water in the neighbourhood of their club-house, and at next Wednesday's meeting I hope to announce that the water is ready for visits from our members.—HENRY HOWSE, hon. sec.

DUKE OF NORFOLK ANGLING SOCIETY.

A few members of the above society were out on the opening day, Mr. Harris having, two nice jack; Mr. Sullens, one, about 4 lb.; and Mr. Avon, a nice trout; all out of the association waters at West Drayton. On the 22nd inst. we fish our opening match of the season, at the same water, our worthy

host, Mr. Green, giving a very handsome prize, and Mr. Whitehall, our chairman, another, and money prizes made up out of the entrance-fee.—J. AVON, sec.

GREAT YARMOUTH PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

Thursday will be the opening contest of the Yarmouth Piscatorial's, four prizes being offered, three presented by members, and one from the society. A full report will be seen next week. The weather unfortunately is in the wrong quarter, and a change would greatly influence the takes.—J. LARK.

GRESHAM ANGLING SOCIETY.

The ordinary weekly meeting of the above society was held at the Mason's Hall Tavern, Mason's Avenue, on Tuesday evening, Captain Alfred in the chair. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. A letter was read from the Clapton Angling Society, inviting the members of the Gresham to a concert to take place after the annual dinner. The secretary reported the receipt, from the author, of "Twelve Sonnets and an Epilogue. In Memoriam Izaak Walton," by Mr. T. Westwood. A vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Westwood for his welcome addition to the library. Two very fine shows of gudgeon were on the table, contributed by Mr. Young and Mr. Bates; the latter gentleman's tray contained forty-eight of the finest specimens to be had, every one outmeasuring 5, and many reaching 7, inches, in addition to two very nice perch. A vote of thanks to the auditors, unfortunately omitted at the annual meeting, was unanimously agreed to, and acknowledged by Mr. White. The chair was occupied during the later portion of the evening by Mr. Lake, who has very kindly added another prize to the list, viz., for the largest number of shows during the season. Votes of thanks to the chairman concluded the evening's business, and were followed by some pleasant musical selections. It was a matter of regret that Major the Hon. E. R. Bourke (a vice-president of the society) was not able to be present. The genial Major has had capital sport with the salmon in Ireland, fishing the Boyne, at Black Castle, Co. Meath. In the course of three weeks, and only fishing occasionally, he landed no less than forty-three fish, weighing, in the aggregate, over 612 lb., the largest fish a fine one, exceeding 29½ lb. Most singular to relate, his largest take was about the last day of his fishing, when, as the Major expressed it, he "got amongst a lot of small fish"; result, that day, seven fish; total weight, 93½ lb.; largest, 20½ lb.; smallest, 10 lb. He hopes soon to report result of his Scotch fishing to the society.—H.

IZAACK WALTON ANGLING SOCIETY.

The ninth annual distribution of annual and special prizes took place on Wednesday, the 4th inst. Mr. G. Manning presided. There was a fine display, being fifty-one prizes for presentation. This, with the thirty presented in November last, made a grand total of eighty-one prizes for the year. The chairman in a very graceful manner complimented each winner, and also congratulated the members generally on the amount of goodwill that exists in the Society. The members have decided to hold their annual dinner at Mr. J. Lydsell's, the Pied Bull, St. Margeret's, Herts, the Sunday members on the 30th inst., the week day members on Wednesday, July 16th. Mr. A. Bass will give two prizes, value 10s. 6d. each, for the heaviest weight of any kind taken on the first Sunday of the season; all fish weigh; members to choose their own fishing water; no competitor to leave London before the morning of the competition. Mr. H. Butt will give a prize, value 10s. 6d., to be fished for on the same day, same conditions. Mr. A. Bass will also give a prize, value 10s. 6d., for the heaviest weight of any kind taken on the first four Wednesdays in the season. Mr. G. P. Rolt will give a box of cigars for the second heaviest weight taken on the same days. Mr. R. Perrin will give a copper kettle for the heaviest weight of roach taken on the first four Sundays in the season. Mr. O. Green will give two handsome trays for the heaviest perch taken on either of the first eight Sundays of the season.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

LIVERPOOL CENTRAL ANGLING ASSOCIATION.

The members of this thriving society celebrated the opening of the season for coarse fish, by a supper at their club room, 120, Dale-street, on Monday evening last. And, by the way, we may add this is the only Liverpool association that have strictly observed the spirit of the Freshwater Fisheries Act on this particular point, which redounds to their credit. There was a capital muster—the presiding spirits, Messrs. Jukes (chairman), McKee (vice-chairman), Howath (treasurer), and McQueen (secretary) used their best exertion for the comfort and amusement of those present, and as a natural sequence a most enjoyable evening was spent. The vocalists on this festive occasion were Messrs. Poston, McQueen and Webster, and their rendering of the various songs was quite up to the mark. Whilst host and hostess Armitage, by their generous catering, all present agreed were sans pareil.—PISCATOR.

RICHMOND PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

This Society held its weekly meeting on Wednesday, Mr. A. J. Little in the chair, Mr. Dickinson in the vice chair. The chairman reminded the members that all-round fishing would commence on Monday, June 16th, and issued several of the Thames Angling Preservation Society's circulars for distribution. He referred to the forthcoming competition in the Thames, and suggested the desirability of ascertaining as nearly as possible a recognised length of fish in the river, proportionate to its weight, and requested members in weighing their fish to register their lengths and the period when caught, so that it might be possible, while keeping a high standard of weight, to compete by length. Mr. Dickinson read a letter he had received from Mr. Andrews, of Guildford, with reference to the young trout to be turned into the sideway, and the hon. sec. was instructed to write for further particulars. Letters were read from the Central Association of London Anglers, stating that amalgamation had not taken place; and from the Anglers' Association, stating that privilege tickets for the railways might be obtained, and requesting delegates to attend the meeting of June 16th. It was decided that nothing whatever should be done in the matter until amalgamation had taken place, or until the railway companies had actually granted the concessions asked for, it being stated that up to the present they had not done so. A letter was read from the Fisheries Preservation Association, requesting the society to send a representative to the conference at the Society of Arts, on Wednesday, with reference to the subject of netting as embodied in the recent Act of Parliament, and it was unanimously resolved that the chairman should attend on behalf of the society. Mr. J. Covell presented a prize, value a guinea, to be awarded at the committee's discretion. It was reported that two fine barbel had that day been taken by Mr. Temple, at Teddington Weir, weighing 13 lb.

and 10 lb. respectively, but of course returned to the water.—GEO. H. HESTER, hon. sec.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

A large and influential meeting of this society was held on Wednesday at the club room, Mr. A. J. Little, chairman, Mr. Dickinson, vice-chairman. The chairman reported that he attended as requested by the society at the Conference at the Society of Arts, under the presidency of Lord Abinger upon the question of netting in fresh water. He said that the meeting was to be considered a success, as influential representatives from all parts of the country had assisted at the discussion, and the almost unanimous feeling was that netting in public waters should be abolished, and he had voted on behalf of the society in favour of the abolition. He stated that at the instigation of Mr. Spreckley, the by-laws in use on the river Thames were arranged to form the basis for legislation for Boards of Conservators all over the country. Mr. Geen made a statement and said he felt gratified to think that the feeling of the meeting that day was in favour of prohibiting netting for coarse fish, and trusted that the result would be the freeing of the river Thames from the netsman. Referring to the by-laws, he said that if the netting were carried out in a legitimate manner as at present regulated by the Thames Conservancy, so many of the roach and dace would not be taken out of the river, and suggested that anglers should subscribe more generously so that the Thames Angling Preservation Society might, if necessary, provide additional keepers. Mr. W. H. Brougham stated that the Thames Angling Preservation Society had recently obtained convictions for netting illegally, and at Kingston that day fines had been inflicted for taking fish out of season and undersized. The committee arranged that the competition in the Thames for three prizes should be for the greatest number of fish of the following largely increased lengths, the second and third in proportion:—Pike, 24 inches; chub, 15 inches; perch, 10 inches; roach, 9½ inches; dace, 8 inches; barbel, 22 inches; trout 21 inches; bream, 18 inches; carp, 16 inches. Mr. Johnson offered prizes of the value of three guineas for roach and dace caught in the Thames and weighed in the society's rooms, to be over 1 lb. 6 oz. respectively.—G. H. HESTER, hon. sec.

ROYAL GEORGE ANGLING SOCIETY.

Our treasurer, Mr. Wood, opened the season well. He came into the club room on Tuesday night last, with a splendid show of chub from the Thames. We had arranged a smoking concert, and a goodly number of members came up with many friends, but the sight of the chub seemed to affect the harmony so much that it was delayed for something like twenty minutes. After recovering themselves we had some very capital songs from Messrs. Hallam, Halding, Bailey, Healey, Sams, Henderson, Harris, Sinclair, Mickleson, Rider, and Palmer. Mr. Bailey, who has hitherto appeared as a singer, on this occasion gave a recitation in a very excellent manner. Mr. Hallam presided at the piano, for which a vote of thanks was proposed by the secretary and carried unanimously. Mr. Hallam, in the course of a few remarks, said that he should be always pleased to occupy the same seat whenever required to do so. I might mention that we made four new members on this occasion, which greatly pleased all present, including—W. H. RIDER.

THE FRIENDLY ANGLERS.

We learn on good authority that a member of this club recently got a 12 lb. trout at Shepperton, and another member, Mr. Hawkins, a fine Colne trout of 3 lb., after dodging him for three weeks.

WAVENEY ANGLING CLUB, BECCLES.

The ordinary monthly meeting of this club took place on Thursday, June 12th, at the Club room, Caxton Arms. There was a fair attendance of members. In the unavoidable absence of the president and vice-president, Mr. Ashby was voted to the chair. After the usual routine business, the secretary read a letter from Mr. J. Crisp—one of the Haven and Pier Commissioners—in reply to a communication from the club concerning the cutting and drawing of weeds in the river. The secretary also stated that Mr. J. Crisp had kindly consented to postpone the cutting of weeds for a time, in order to allow the spawn on the weeds to hatch off. On the motion of Mr. T. Wilson a cordial vote of thanks to the Commissioners was adopted, and the secretary was requested to communicate the same to Mr. J. Crisp. There can be little doubt that this postponement of weed cutting at a critical time has been the means of sparing some thousands of young fry that otherwise must have perished. Mr. Buscall then read a paper entitled, "What constitutes skill in bottom fishing?" winding up with a subject for debate, "Which kind of fishing makes the most skilful angler, dace, roach, perch, or bream?" Mr. Buscall took his stand by dace and roach, arguing that perch and bream were more voracious in their habits, and that their voracity often overcame their instinct or intelligence. Perch or bream will often hook themselves, while dace and roach being more fastidious feeders, it requires some amount of skill and dexterity to hook them. The discussion was not very animated, all seeming to be of Mr. Buscall's opinion, the perch and bream finding no champion. It was decided that the friendly match with the Caxton Club should take place on Saturday, June 21st. A vote of thanks to Mr. Buscall for his interesting paper, and a capital song by Mr. Tilney, brought the meeting to a close.—J. HOOKER, hon. sec.

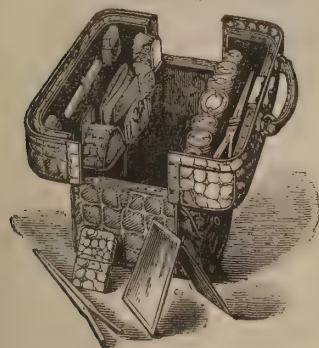
WALWORTH PISCATORIALS.

The distribution of prizes won during the past season by the members of the Walworth Waltonians and the Surrey Piscatorials took place on the 12th. Mr. Weatherhead presided. The collection of prizes were on view during the evening, and made a grand show. Inspectors Williams and Porter, Messrs. Beirton, Towers, Holland, J. Collins, and C. R. Russell, were elected as honorary members, and Messrs. A. Brodie and T. Russell as working members. The first competition will take place on the 19th, for three prizes, go where and fish how you like, public or private. The second competition will take place on the 29th, the where and how to be decided at the meeting on the 19th.—PIXIE.

THE FISHERIES SOCIETY AT UXBRIDGE.—On Tuesday last, a bargeman was taken before the magistrates on a warrant that was taken out in December last and charged with taking fish from the society's water with a side net from a barge. He was convicted and fined 5s. and costs.

THAMES FISHERY CONVICTION.—Charles Belcher was convicted by the Kingston Borough Bench, on Wednesday last, for taking roach during the close season, and fined £1 and 12s. costs. The case was proved by head river-keeper Alfred Thompson, and Mr. W. H. Brougham prosecuted on behalf of the Thames Angling Preservation Society.

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Communications relating to the Literary Department, Fishing Tackle for Notice, Books for Review, &c., must be addressed to the Editor of the FISHING GAZETTE, No. 12, Fetter Lane, London, E.C.

Contributions are solicited, but the Editor will not undertake to return rejected MSS. unless accompanied with a stamped addressed envelope.

Correspondents are requested to write on one side of the paper only, and give their real names and addresses, not necessarily as signatures to their letters, but as a guarantee of good faith. Unless this rule be adhered to, no notice will be taken of such communications.

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The Fishing Gazette.

SATURDAY, JUNE 28, 1884.

A CONGRATULATION.

(FROM ONE OF OUR EARLIEST CONTRIBUTORS.)

THE close—"set" pages of the FISHING GAZETTE of to-day afford a striking contrast to the early issues, when some of my own contributions appeared in all the honours of "double-leaded" type. The paper has undoubtedly supplied a want; the large increase in the advertisements, and the great popularity of the GAZETTE, has warranted the Editor, as one of the proprietors, in increasing its size without adding to the price. The Editor complains that he is flooded with held-over correspondence. Brevity is a blessing to any editor where the space is arbitrary. If club meetings are held on the first two or three evenings of the working week, the secretaries should write a succinct paragraph, and post the "copy" at once. In the ordinary "correspondence," each writer should strive to get at the kernel of his subject, and mentally "boil it down," and discard all the husk. Cant terms of angling should be avoided by all, and sorry attempts at wit and humour never indulged in. Most Englishmen when they meet together for pleasure indulge in "harmony"; but there is no need at all to mention the songs sung. Every reader of the FISHING GAZETTE will thus find the enlarged series increasingly interesting, and by the "boiling down" process, however much some vain folk like to "see their names in print," the "great guns" only can go into detail on smart performances, because the interest of the cause will warrant their doing so.

THE FRESHWATER FISHERIES ACTS,

1878 AND 1884.

MR. J. W. WILLIS BUND, M.A., has done great service to all anglers, and, indeed, to everyone interested in our inland waters, by publishing, in a very handy and cheap form, the Mundella Act of 1878 and the Birkbeck Act of 1884. We call it the Birkbeck Act because, although introduced by Mr. Hibbert, M.P., it was fostered into vigorous life and usefulness by Mr. Edward Birkbeck, M.P.—indeed, in its original state it was merely intended to be special and, perhaps, local in its action. Mr. Willis Bund not only gives us the Acts, but he also gives a most clear and valuable commentary on their various clauses, pointing out the effect of this or that clause in such a manner as could only be done by a lawyer, and a lawyer who had an immense experience of the working of the laws relating to fishing. Mr. Willis Bund is the first authority of the day on legal matters connected with fisheries, and we have the greatest pleasure in advising our readers to obtain this little work, which may be had, price 1s., of Messrs. Butterworth's, 7, Fleet Street, London.

The Act of 1884 (taken in connection with previous legislation) has provided for England and Wales the best system for fostering and protecting their fisheries they have ever had, and far better than anything which is done in this direction by any other country in the world.

Every angler, and especially the secretary of every angling

club, ought to understand the laws of his country relating to his favourite sport. It should be remembered that ignorance of the law is not considered a legal excuse for breaking it.

PROSECUTION BY THE SEVERN FISHERY BOARD IN HEREFORDSHIRE.

AT Ledbury, Herefordshire, at the last Petty Sessions, before Colonel Kyrle, Captain Archdale, and J. Hopton, Esq., Richard Hoare, Charles Field, John Farmer, George Thomas, Thomas James, and James James, of Bosbury, were summoned by the Severn Fishery Board, for illegally taking trout out of a brook at Bosbury. Mr. J. Stallard, jun., clerk to the Severn Fishery Board, prosecuted.

Police-constable McDonald deposed to seeing James James on the afternoon of May 24th, who spoke to him about fishing. He (witness) showed him a bill prohibiting fishing unless in conformity with the Act. At half-past six the same day, he saw the defendants near the bridge over the brook at Bosbury. They were under the bridge, lading the water. At the expiration of twenty minutes, J. James came from under the arch, with a bucket nearly filled with fish. The defendant Farmer said they had no license.

It was stated that four of the defendants were not there by pre-arrangement, but were attracted by curiosity.

The Bench said they had no alternative but to convict, and fined each defendant 8s. or seven days.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

SINGULAR INCIDENT DURING TROUT FISHING.

SIR,—The following singular incident occurred the other day while I was fishing for trout at Hambledon, near Henley-on-Thames. I was live baiting with a bleak for a large trout that I had observed on several occasions, and I was using gut snap tackle, without float or shot, simply allowing the bait to swim where it chose.

The bleak naturally came up to the "surface" of the water frequently, and I allowed it a swim of forty yards or thereabouts. After some little time, while turning round to light my pipe, I heard the rattle of my winch, which, to my surprise, was caused, not by a fish taking the bait, but by a "martin," which, to my astonishment, was hooked and fluttering on the water. I drew in my line and found that it was a fact that the poor little bird was hooked clean through the upper part of its beak. How this occurred I am at a loss to imagine, except that perhaps the martin made a sudden dive at an insect, and the bait rising to the surface at that exact moment, the hook got thus imbedded in the bird, but it was strange that the capture should have been effected thus—"fairly hooked." I am a constant reader of your interesting paper and thought that perhaps the above circumstance from its singularity might be worth mentioning.—I am, &c.,

H. J. D. KELLY.

Pall Mall Club.

ENGLISH TROUT IN AMERICA.

SIR,—You have a slight error in the American paragraph on page 289, about the ova from the Wye. They were from the upper part of the Wey, at Alton, where we have fish of 8 lb. and over.—I am, &c.,

T. ANDREWS.

Westgate House, Guildford, June 21.

FINE TACKLE FOR THE THAMES.

SIR,—On Monday last I fished at Walton-on-Thames with old George Hone, and after trying with a fine ledger line for four hours, began to think the day would be another blank.

I thought I would try the very finest roach tackle. This was soon fitted to my fine silk running line, and after two or three swims, I hooked a nice bream. This was followed by another, and another, until Mr. Jack paid a visit to my swim. I fitted up a paternoster with a nice lively dace, and soon had the pleasure of placing a jack of 3½ lb. in the well, and a short time after I caught another of 2 lb. weight; this, unfortunately, I could but return to the river. The fish was killed in getting the hook out.

The river is full of fish, but as old George says, they want "ketching." My day's sport, fourteen good bream, largest 3 lb., two jack, 3½ and 2 lb.—I am, &c.,

ALFRED MACKRILL, T.A.P.S.

"DRY FLY FISHING" UP STREAM.

SIR,—Several letters have lately appeared on this subject in the FISHING GAZETTE. So far as I have been able to ascertain from anglers accustomed to this method of fly-fishing, a comparatively recent origin for the practice is given by them all; and you, yourself, in an editorial note annexed to a letter on this subject in the last number of the GAZETTE, say "we remember the dry fly in use at Winchester many years before 1877."

It is not easy to say how long it is since dry fly-fishing was begun, for without publication it may in some districts have been long practised as the most deadly mode of taking wary trout. Certainly it is only of recent years that this practice has become so general and well known.

I am sure it will interest your readers when I mention that in one book only in my library I have found a comparatively early record of advice on this matter. W. Wilson, of Hatton Garden, printed and published in London in 1815 a book entitled, "Series of Letters on Sporting, by Robert Lascelles, Esq.: in two parts," the first is on angling, and the second on shooting. The letters on fishing were written in 1811 to his friend G—, and in one of them headed "Crick Howell (Wales)," while giving his friend an account of the flies on the water, and speaking of the March brown, or cob fly, says (p. 31): "These flies appear in large shoals, and at times the water is perfectly alive. I shou'd

recommend every one before he attempts the artificial, to catch a natural one, as their bodies vary so much in colour, but this one in particular in which respect he is a perfect chameleon . . . a most famous killing fly throughout the season. . . . When this fly first comes on the water the fish instantly flock to the head of the stream, and scarce one out of thousands escapes their fury. It will materialy assist your diversion, I think, if you use three flies of this description at the same time; one of lighter colour, another something sadder, and a third the exact colour of the natural fly, for by throwing gently up the stream and allowing yours to swim down with the other flies a fish is more likely to be off his guard, and under such circumstances every dexterity of skill is required to lure him into the snare." Very good advice! Mr. Lascelles has in this passage indicated the principle and advised the practice of dry fly-fishing which has nowadays been reduced to such perfection. I do not suppose that many, if any of us, will take his advice and use three flies; one is found to be sufficient; the two if double winged and on eyed hooks can be easily managed; but on this point I do not mean to enter, as I began this letter, now too long, merely to try if possible to fix the time when dry fly-fishing was first practised and published.

Possibly someone else may be able to fix a more ancient date; but this is certain: the "many years before 1877," Mr. Editor, will not reach back to 1811. —I am, &c., JOHN BRUNTON, M.D.

21, Euston Road, N.

[Dr. Brunton's interesting letter does not prove quite enough for our purpose. Lascelles simply recommends up-stream fishing with three flies, and says nothing about drying them and making them float, but only that they should swim down—which may, and most probably, does mean the ordinary three-fly up-stream cast. Mr. Francis-Francis nearly twenty years ago described "Dry-fly fishing" fully in his invaluable "Book of Angling" In connection with this matter, Mr. Marryat, probably about the best fly-fisher for trout now alive, has written us a note which will be found in our columns. —ED.]

WHO INVENTED DRY-FLY FISHING?

SIR,—I believe the late James Ogden, of Cheltenham, claimed to have been the inventor of the dry-fly system, but I expect it is a case of evolution, and that the first man who threw a dry fly is lost to fame, *caret quia vate sacro*. I see your correspondent, "Hampshire," saw me cast twenty-eight yards of line with a single-handed rod; it was not measured, and if I were you I should reel in about six yards two feet eleven inches and threequarters, or you will raise "Merry Nell" at the forthcoming FISHING GAZETTE Tournament on Ju'y 26, unless I come and do it, or burst a little gut trying to do it. I have just been staying at Houghton Mill. I fished one evening at Piddlesworth, and got a brace of fish and two great silly dace that hadn't as much judgment as not to rise like grayling, and so met a dry death. I don't hanker after fishing a single blank in hay fields; docks is cusses, and thistles is blisphemy, and all fishermen's recording angels have to be double-balked in hay time. Who might "Hampshire" be, if it is not a breach of etiquette to say?—I am, &c., GEO. I. MARRYAT.

[We must leave "Hampshire" to make himself known to Mr. Marryat, if he cares to do so. We can fully sympathise with Mr. Marryat and the exasperating state casting from a hay field induces in all but angels. Last Monday we had a fair dose of this form of hay fever. You see a fish rise just on the edge of the weeds, say within an easy cast up stream, fifteen yards perhaps. You kneel down and creep as near the water as possible to get free of overhanging green things. Two or three flutters of the fly to dry it, then a nice back cast, and with your eye intent on the feeding place, you make the forward cast. Everything goes nicely until you have got full steam up, and then—bang—your fly has got round a slender but tough bit of rye grass, or the red scale-like flowers of the dock. On such an occasion the best thing to do is to set your teeth well into the screw of your whisky flask and take a solar observation, remember the "World's" advice as to what to say, and repeat "Godfrey Daniel's blast and furnace works" until relieved. Repeat it to the farmer if he asks you why you don't walk "all over the field."—ED.]

ANGLERS' CHEAP FARES.

SIR,—The recreation or pastime of angling differs from all others, inasmuch that it is indulged in both summer and winter. Cyclists can mount their machines and ride where they please, and only take to the railways when the state of the road or weather "compels" them. Anglers cannot get astide their rods, and ride to this place and that place; they must use the iron road to arrive at their destination. Hence there is no comparison as to the needs of these two to the consideration of railway directors. Other pastimes, such as shooting, botanising, &c., are mostly followed by those whose means are ample, and whose time in a great measure is, so to say, their own. These could not possibly enter into competition with the bulk of anglers for an extension of the cheap fares to them. Of course there are plenty of anglers who do not need and do not use the cheap fares, and, indeed, in our association we have members who on principle would not use the privilege card, but who have always paid ordinary fare, arguing, and properly so, that the concession was intended for the benefit of their poorer brethren.

But, Sir, we cannot "keep" what we have not "got," and we have quietly and humbly endeavoured to regain what was taken from us. We drew up and submitted a code of regulations or guarantees to the directors as safeguards to the issue of the cheap fares, at the same time saying that if these were not approved of we placed ourselves in their hands, and would accept such conditions as they might think necessary. Several of our patrons, who are M.P.'s, also used their interest to have the privilege restored to us but without avail. It was evident the directors of the London and North-Western, Great Western, and Lancashire and Yorkshire did not intend to listen, and had made up their minds to persist in their high-handed policy as far as Liverpool was concerned, and I should think that under the circumstances no one can possibly blame anglers here for resolving to make up their minds to stay at home, and thus deprive the railway companies of any benefit they may have hoped to derive from the increased fares. This is the policy I have adopted, and which I shall most certainly follow up, as I think it the only one to have any lasting effect. —I am, &c., RD. WOOLFALL,

Hon. sec. the Liverpool Angling Association.

BOLTON ANGLERS AND CHEAP TRAVELLING.

SIR,—In your issue of the 14th of June I see a letter signed, "John Walsh," in which he suggests that the anglers of Bolton should acquire waters near home, and thus get rid of the necessity of spending money in travelling

by rail. Can Mr. Walsh point out any waters worth fishing in that we have any chance of securing? I have resided in Bolton for many years, but up to this time have failed to find any decent fishing within many miles.

Of course there are the Corporation Waterworks Reservoirs, which are rented, I believe, by a club styled "The Bolton Anglers' Association," who issue tickets at 15s. for the season. The reservoirs are five in number, and from two to six miles' distance from Bolton. They all contain trout, but not very many. The fishing, therefore, is rather poor, blank days being pretty frequent. One fish is a fair afternoon's catch; two a very good one; and three, so far as my experience goes, an exceptional occurrence. I have often fished these reservoirs and seen many other people angling, but have never had, or witnessed anyone else have, a really good day's sport.

Imagine, from accounts I have read in this paper, that the fishing in these lodges is not unlike fishing for trout in the Thames, except that our fish, although of fair size, are by no means so large as those of that river. If these waters were well stocked with good fish—Loch Leven trout, for instance—I, and I daresay many others, would gladly pay double or treble the subscription now required; but at present the game is scarcely worth the candle.

Then there are the Park Lakes. The fish they contain are principally very small roach, four or five inches in length; of these there are a great quantity. The Corporation, however, is very capricious in opening them for fishing, which it does sometimes at a charge of 1s. per day, or rather half day, as the fishing is confined to Saturday afternoons.

We have also within two or three miles of Bolton Rumworth Reservoir, which contains a few coarse fish. The public are permitted to fish it on payment of 1s. per day. The fishing is very poor indeed.

There is also a canal here, but this is, so far as I can ascertain, entirely destitute of fish.

At Worsley, six or seven miles distant, is another canal. It contains a few gudgeon and small eels.

In the neighbourhood of Bolton are a few lodges attached to bleachworks, &c., but permission is difficult, and in some cases impossible to obtain, and even when it is got is worth very little.

The above constitute all the fishing places I can think of round Bolton. We have no river that is not liquid sewage. The nearest fishable river is the Ribble, miles away. In journeying to and from this river anglers' cheap tickets were a great boon.

Under the above-named circumstances, I think the best course for the anglers of Bolton to pursue is to strive for, and, if possible, obtain, the consent of the railway companies to again grant them the privilege of cheap travelling, which permitted them, at a moderate expense, to visit not only the Ribble and Wyre, but such rivers as the Dove, Dee, Trent, also Windermere Lake, Lancaster Canal, &c., &c.

With all due deference to Mr. Walsh, the waters about Bolton will never, in my opinion, afford sufficient sport for the many hundreds of anglers who reside in that town.—I am, &c., OSPREY.

A LARGE IRISH PIKE.

SIR,—A welcome addition has been made to the already large collection of varieties of stuffed fish at the house of Mr. Joseph Lawson, The Angler's Home, Queen's Street, Bolton, by the reception of a magnificent specimen of pike. It was caught near Athlone, Ireland, by a friend who sent it here. It has been very handsomely mounted by Mr. Cooper, Radnor Street, London, E.C. It weighed 36 lb. 10 oz., was 4 ft. long, it is now 3 ft. 10½ in., circumference 2 feet. It is thought here that it is about the third largest ever caught recently. Mr. Lawson is himself one of the most energetic anglers in the Bolton district of the amalgamated societies.—I am, &c.,

Bolton, Lancashire.

WILLIAM HADDOCK.

THE OUSE AT LITTLEPORT.

SIR,—Will you kindly insert the following in your valuable paper, as I find since I started reporting to it, it is a frequent occurrence for anglers to come from a distance, quite expecting that I have the right to the water over which we fish, whereas I am only a member of the Cambridge and Ely Angling Society, who strictly preserve the five miles of water between Ely and Littleport, known as the South Level Cut, and no one is allowed to fish unless a member. They, however, bring the subscriptions within the reach of the humblest disciple of good old Isaac. The annual subscription for bottom fishing only being 2s. 6d., but for all-round fishing 5s. The latter ticket is stamped at the office of the Great Eastern Railway, and enables anglers to travel between Cambridge and Littleport at single fare; tickets may be obtained at the office of the hon. sec., 63, Sidney Street, Cambridge, of A. C. Allen, Local hon. sec., Club Inn, Ely; R. J. Leach, Littleport; or W. Howlett, Newmarket.

We have the river again swarming with fish. But up to the present have done but little good among them, as the growing weed is the great attraction. The greatest number I have heard of was taken on 16th by Mr. Hy. Lee, Cambridge, seventeen fish, in all; none large. Mr. Hailstone on two days last week, a few decent perch and a couple of small bream; Messrs. Pigott and Richmond, Ely, some good perch in the Lark. There is one comfort, however; no one, I believe, has had a blank day. I have just had a piece of good news from the keeper. Member Ward, of Littleport, took four good bream, 10½ lb., on Tuesday, and four again on Wednesday, over 11 lb., boiled wheat being the bait.—I am, &c., C. SOUTH.

South Level Cut, Littleport.

[Quite agree with your private postscript; have had it attended to. We should strongly advise the association to issue 6d. or 1s. day tickets, as 2s. 6d., when an angler can only fish for one day is too much to charge. These day tickets would bring in a useful little sum. Although 2s. 6d. is very little for the year, it is a good deal when added to the railway fare when one can only get away for the one day.—ED.]

FISHING IN THE BLACK FOREST.

SIR,—"N. E. L.," whose query appeared in the GAZETTE of the 14th inst. would find Gnsbach a good centre. It lies at the mouth of the Murg Thal, to the east of Baden-Baden. The trout fishing is very good indeed; flies such as blue upright, black gnat, red ant, black ant, Spanish needle, Marlow buzz, and G. J. Eaton's bumbles would, in all probability, be the best killers for July and August. The best German anglers' guide is Von dem Borne's "Wegweiser für Angler" (Wiegandt, Berlin), which gives all the German trout localities.

Permission to fish can be had of Herr Gerber, who keeps the Krone Hotel.

Price of living is about 7 shillings per day. The valley is very picturesque, and the scenery is very pretty of its kind. The walks are numerous and beautiful.

I have been told that lodgings are very reasonable, and, without doubt, taking rooms and feeding at a restaurant would be found far cheaper than living at an hotel.

Waders, in certain parts of the river, are necessary.—I am, &c.,

"SKIN THE FISH.

Diekirch, June 24th.

McMULLEN'S PATENT SWIVEL.

SIR,—I beg to inclose rough sketches of swivel, showing the way the wire has to be sprung open three times in putting the loop or eye of bait on.

Although rough, I trust it will enable your engraver to prepare the illustration you have kindly promised of it.

Concerning my check invention, and which was comprised with the swivel in exhibit No. 454, at the late Fisheries Exhibition, it is produced by a screw fixed in a spring attached to the winch spindle, working into a number of indentations in side plate of winch, or in a plate fixed thereon.

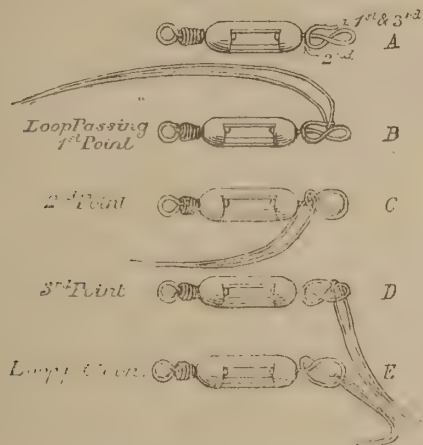
As shown at the Exhibition, the spring was kept in position by a nut s'otted for turning with blade of pocket-knife &c., and the nut was prevented by a small screw inserted therein from being unscrewed beyond half turn or so, necessary to take off check by releasing spring. Various degrees of check could be maintained. The winches exhibited showed the bare principle of invention, and that was all.

They were submitted to the jurors at the Fisheries, and the chairman, Lord Abinger, was good enough to state that it was "very ingenious," and "quite novel, too." The last juror to examine them referred to the subject of a Diploma, giving me his advice as to the course he would recommend me to pursue in the event of my receiving one; and although no promise was made to me personally, one's hopes were needlessly raised by the above incident, seeing that I have neither seen nor heard anything further of the "reward," which another juror, Mr. Kelson, in his letter of Oct. 19th last, stated was certainly promised me "by the jury."—I am &c.,

W. J. McMULLEN.

I, Ilkeston Villas, Ashbourne Grove, E. Dulwich.

May 15th.



Sketches of three Springing-point Hook-Swivels. W. J. Mc.Mullen, inventor, Exhibit 454, at the Fisheries Exhibition, 1883.

Springing or resistance-points where the wire has to be sprung open in putting on gut or gimp loop, or metal eye attached to bait.

[Mr. McMullen's swivel, which has been brought out by Messrs. Allcock & Co., of Redditch, is by far the most secure "catch" swivel in the market; there is no possibility of a spoon bait or other bait or a trace loop getting free, as so often happens with the ordinary buckle or watch swivels. We can strongly recommend it for all kinds of fishing.—ED.]

WEED CUTTING ON TROUT STREAMS.

SIR,—All fly fishers know what a trial to their patience and temper is the "Fisherman's Curse," but I am not sure if there is not another curse, quite as bad, if not worse—viz., weed cutting. However much we must bow to Dame Nature, who allows the black midge to thus annoy us and protect the trout, surely weed cutting ought to be under control. If the various clubs, proprietors, farmers, and millers would but come to some understanding, what a deal of bad language and what an immense amount of bad temper might be prevented.

Nothing is worse than the present system. The fish and the fishermen are very little considered. One proprietor cuts the weeds on his part of the stream just when he pleases, never taking into account the wishes or the wants of those above or below him. There is also no method in the cutting. It is just as important to cut the weeds judiciously and at the proper season as it is to burn the heather with judgment on a grouse moor. Weeds are cut anyhow or at any time. Who would think of burning the heather when the grouse were nesting? There should be a close time for the one, as there is for the other. To clean mow the whole of the weeds, leaving the bed of the river as bare as the back of your hand, as is often seen in many places, is just one way of destroying the fish in it. Not only does it give great facilities to poaching, but it destroys the food of the trout. The larvæ of most of the flies—duns, May flies, &c., &c.—are bred and live in the water, either at the bottom or on the weeds. Rakes and scythes are their murderers, and effectually prevent the fish getting into season; and not only that but the trout will, if possible, leave these ripped streams and migrate to more weedy waters. Weeds should, therefore, be cut with circumspection—every here and there clumps of them should be left—one year in one locality, the next year in another, and so on. No real sportsman will object to such a proceeding; for although it makes it more difficult to kill a big fish, and occasionally one may be lost, yet it preserves the fish, as they then have their natural hiding places and natural food.—I am, &c.,

SILVER DOCTOR.

[We notice in the *Field* Mr. Mann and other anglers are crying out against this weed cure. We have often done so. In our experience of South of England trout streams we should say at least half, probably two-thirds of the time has been lost from the weed nuisance. Could not the following plan be

adopted? Let all clubs pass a rule to place a strong net across some slow part of the top of their water every morning, and then let the accumulated mass free at night. The members will then be independent of any weed cutting going on above them, and not find at the end of a long journey from town that the weeds are on. What objection could there be to this plan? "Silver Doctor's" remarks about the foolish manner the weeds are cut off in many club and private waters are much to the point. We have seen a river for hundreds of yards cleaned of all weeds—there is no cover for the fish, and they desert the place, probably for a neighbouring preserve, the owner of which has been sharp enough not to destroy all the cover.—ED.]

SUITING SALMON FLIES TO COLOUR OF WATER.

SIR,—In Mr. Geo. M. Kelson's second article on the description of salmon flies, which appears in your issue of the 7th inst., he says that we are "naturally led to mount dull, dark flies in coloured water, and hence I infer that there are some 'dull, dark flies,' which will kill when the water is coloured or muddy. Would it be asking too much of Mr. Kelson if he would kindly give the name or description of any such fly? If he would do so, and that fly prove to be a killer, he would confer a very great favour on many a salmon fisher; and, what is more, upset, utterly and entirely, the preconceived ideas of equally as many.

In the river I most frequently fish in, we are far more often favoured with dirty water than with clean. Mud from floods—mud from dredging operation—and, worst of all, mud from high winds, causing waves on the river, which lash against the banks, bring the mud away therefrom, and turn the water into the colour of whey, or barley water. In the first description of mud which I have mentioned, we always mount large bright flies, and sometimes kill well with them in the dirty water. On one such occasion, two of us killed seven salmon, averaging 12½ lb., in two and a half hours. In the second description of mud, it is very hard to get a fish to move at all; and, in the third, the best thing to do is to go home, for the fish will not rise in water discoloured through the waves washing against the shore. At least, they will not take any lure we know of, and some of us have been giving the matter our attention for forty years. But, perhaps, we have been wrong all along, and should have been at them with dark, dull flies, instead of gaudy ones. The best fly for water discoloured by honest rain mud—to coin an expression—appears to be Ephemerella's Dunkeld, with a very "red golden olive" hackle, or, may be, "red orange" is a better name for the colour, the dyeing of which I will allude to hereafter.

May I ask whether either Major Traherne or Mr. Kelson have noticed the change of colour which takes place in the kingfisher's feathers after being a short time in the water? The beautiful, and enticing-looking, bright blue colour entirely disappears, and merely a dull kind of slaty colour remains, presenting, in the wet feather, a very different appearance from the brilliant colour displayed in the dry one. Nor is this the only feather which changes colour when wet: notably, the Indian roller, or jay, as it is more often called, changing from a light, bright blue, to a dirty pink, when wet, and regaining the former colour when dry.

Owing to this change of colour, which I have noticed in the kingfisher's feather, I have given up using it in any flies I tie, though I often see it in those of professional tyers, and very pretty it looks; but I fear it is only "eye wash"—what say you brother anglers mine?—I am, &c.,

EASTERN.

MICA FOR FLY WINGS.

SIR,—I believe you approve of the pike scale flies, and read in the *FISHING GAZETTE* lately that a gentleman—I think yourself—was stopped in imitating a house fly by the want of the needful scales.

Might I suggest a trial of common mica? It is cheap and common; every gas-fitter keeps it in the form of gas globe covers; can be split into leaves of any thickness with a sharp knife; is transparent, flexible, elastic, and easily cut; and, of course, waterproof. Something might be done with such material.

You will reasonably remark, "Why couldn't he have tried it before writing?" But, though a devoted angler, I cannot make a fly. Perhaps some more skillful reader may do so, and if there is anything in the idea, let your other readers know.

With thanks for my weekly pleasure and profit from the *GAZETTE*,—I am, &c.,

W. P. H.

[We think the pike scale will be found better than mica, which is too brittle to tie on properly.—ED.]

"WITHIN MEASURABLE DISTANCE."

SIR,—These words were used by Mr. Gladstone in 1880, in a speech on the Compensation for Disturbance (Ireland) Bill, a measure which unfortunately was rejected by the House of Lords. I have Mr. Gladstone's authority for the reference.

I trust that my tardiness in writing will not close your columns against me.—I am, &c.,

N. TRAVES.

BECCLES ANGLING MATCH.—A friendly match between teams representing the Waveney and the Caxton Clubs took place last Saturday afternoon on the river Waveney, between Boater's Hill and Worlingham Mill, and resulted in a victory for the Waveney Club. The party mustered at Boater's Hill, and at a little before three o'clock the signal was given to start, the conditions being that the Waveney Club's standard as regards the size of fish be adopted, and that fishing should cease at 7.30 p.m. The wind was northerly, and the water bright, which was against heavy takes. After the match, the competitors assembled at the Caxton Arms to weigh in, when the results were declared as follows:—Waveney Angling Club, 19 lb. 11 oz.; Caxton Angling Club, 9 lb. 3½ oz. The following is a list of competitors, arranged according to the weight of their catches:—Waveney Angling Club: 1, J. Rouse; 2, G. West; 3, J. Hooker; 4, C. McCallie; 5, A. W. M. Buscall; 6, O. Ham; 7, G. Knell; 8, R. Norman; 9, W. Beckett; 10, F. P. Angell. Caxton Angling Club: 1, T. Palmer; 2, 3, C. Chase and W. Lee; 4, 5, J. Bloomfield and T. Rackman; 6, G. Holland; 7, F. Ulph; 8, W. W. Peachey; 9, A. E. Mickleburgh; 10, W. Fuller.

CLUB REPORTS.

AMICABLE BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

The members of the above society owing to the hurried and informal manner of the so called amalgamation of anglers, have decided to take the privilege tickets from the Central Association, held at Mr. Hatfield's, the Star and Garter, St. Martin's Lane, and have been enrolled for that purpose; the privilege tickets are now in hand, and members can have them direct. The railway authorities have kindly granted to the Central Association, all the concessions as usual, with the exception of the L. and N. W. which remain in abeyance at present. The members will dine at Mr. S. Coomes, Five Horse Shoes, Hoddesdon, Herts, on July 6th. A great number of members tried their skill on the 15th, but with very little success. Mr. J. Holliday had the honour of weighing in first some roach from the Stort, followed by Mr. Say with bream, roach, and dace, from Pulborough.—F. WORLIDGE, sec.

ANCHOR AND HOPE ANGLING SOCIETY.

A roving match will take place on July 6, at Tonbridge, for three prizes. We had a very poor show of fish on the 22nd inst., only two members weighing in. Mr. F. Bowling and Mr. D. Davis bream from Amberley.—D. DAVIS, secretary.

ANGLERS' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

Since my last report, I beg to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of five shillings donation from the Carlisle Angling Society, and seven shillings from the donation box of the Prince of Wales Angling Society.—R. GHURNEY, sec. June 26.

BATTERSEA FRIENDLY ANGLING SOCIETY.

At a half-yearly meeting held on Tuesday, the 24th inst., the following officers were elected:—President, Mr. G. Mumford; vice-president, Mr. H. Martin; treasurer, Mr. G. Edwards; secretary, Mr. A. T. Sampson; committee, Messrs. C. Hedges, W. Stockman, H. Crook, E. Sampson, H. Payne, Robinson, Mitchener, W. Johnson, J. Johnson, F. Newton, F. Clarke, G. Edwards, and G. Butterworth. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. H. Payne for his past services, but who was forced to retire on account of ill-health. The first contest of the season took place on the 22nd inst., at Amberley, eighteen members competing, and was won, after a good contest, by Mr. G. Mumford, with 3 lb. 6 oz.; Mr. H. Martin, 3 lb. 1½ oz. If Martin only keeps improving as he has done lately, by the time he is a few years older he will make a capital angler. Several others of the members weighed in fish, and all of them spent a most enjoyable day. The next contest will take place at Woking, on July 13, for three prizes presented by our worthy host (Mr. G. Edwards).—A. T. SAMPSON, hon. sec.

BOSTONIAN ANGLING SOCIETY.

A few of the members were out on the opening day. Mr. Constable had the best take, showing some good bream, from the Welsh Harp waters, the largest weighing 2 lb. 12½ oz.; Mr. Taylor, bream, from Welsh Harp, the largest weighing 2 lb. 4 oz. On the 22nd inst., the following members weighed fish, from Amberley:—Mr. Goodge, bream; Mr. Elton, bream; Mr. Constable, roach; Mr. Jennings, bream. Mr. Jamieson had a good show of roach and perch, one barbel, and one nice trout, nearly 2 lb., from the Thames. Secretaries please note: Mr. Bastain having resigned, Mr. J. Jennings has been elected hon. secretary, to whom all communications should be addressed.—J. JENNINGS, hon. sec.

BROMPTON ANGLING SOCIETY.

Some very good shows on the 22nd inst. for Mr. Sewel's prize, for the heaviest take. Messrs. Brown, dace; Roach, perch and dace; Parton, perch; Sewel, dace and perch; Burbidge, dace; E. Saunders, chub; Dutton, perch and dace; Young, jun., barbel and roach; Mr. Ducker proving the winner, with a handsome show of bream. Messrs. Pearce, Turner, Sparks, Stonebridge, Wilson, and Young, sen., had fish, but were too late to weigh in.—W. DUTTON, sec.

BURDETT ANGLING SOCIETY.

We had a fair show of fish at this club on the 22nd of this month. Mr. Reeves, a good tray of chub; Mr. Hadhiss, a nice show of bream and roach; Mr. Flint, roach and dace; Mr. Hammond, roach; Mr. Coughtan, roach; Mr. Weeks, roach; and Mr. Syddell, perch.—T. G. WALKER.

CAMBRIDGE AND ELY ANGLING SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of this society will take place on Monday, June 30th, at 7.30, at the Red Lion Hotel, Cambridge. A large gathering is anticipated. During the past season the sport has been excellent, and the prospects for the present season are remarkably good. The river Cam, from Bollissham to Ely, is swarming with fish, and South reports from Littleport an abundance of roach, which, it is hoped, in a few weeks will be on the feed. We understand that the report of the committee to be presented to the society on Monday will be most favourable. They have secured a renewal of the lease of the fishery in the South Level Out from the South Level Commissioners on the old terms. After the business of the annual meeting the annual supper will take place, the president in the chair. Dr. Cooper, the present president, will in all probability be re-elected.

CITY OF LONDON ANGLING SOCIETY.

Several of our members visited Amberley on the 22nd, two only being successful, Mr. Chambers weighing in bream and roach; Mr. Nitz, roach; Mr. Castell had roach and bream from Dagenham. Our distribution of prizes took place on the 19th, Mr. Chambers taking five, Messrs. Nitz and Castell three each, Messrs. Mortimer and Crouch two, and Messrs. Plumstead, Clarkson and Davis one each. Mr. Chambers gave a prize for the heaviest specimen roach taken on one of the first four outings in the season. The next general and Eastern district visit combined will go to this society; the date will be given next week.—OAS.

CLAPHAM JUNCTION ANGLING SOCIETY.

Several of our members were out during last week, but takes were small. Mr. Boisseau weighed a nice carp, 5½ lb. in splendid condition. Messrs. Wilson, Benfield, Wakeford, Starsmere, Moore, &c., had small shows. An important meeting was held on Thursday last, when it was decided that rule two be in future strictly enforced. Members please notice.—W. MASLIN, sec.

CLAPTON ANGLING SOCIETY.

The ordinary weekly meeting of this society was held on Wednesday last, the 25th inst., Mr. Parry in the chair. The minutes of the last meeting were read, approved, and signed. The secretary said he had much pleasure in informing the members that according to the power vested in him at the last meeting, he, in company with the treasurer and Mr. Graham Bennett, had on the preceding Friday called upon Messrs. Day and Son at the Ferry Boat Fishery, Tottenham, that an agreement had been entered into with the Messrs. Day by which members of the Clapton Angling Society were now free to angle in the whole of their waters, viz., the old Ferry Boat Fishery, Ford's Water, &c. It was arranged that each member of the Clapton on his first visit to the fishery should call on Mr. H. Day at the Ferry Boat, for the purpose of identifying himself as a member of the Clapton, on his producing for Mr. Day's inspection the receipt of the Clapton for his subscription for the current year. Mr. Day would endorse such receipt, when the members would be free to angle in the waters. The members present expressed their great satisfaction at this arrangement, many expressing their knowledge of the waters, stating that there were immense quantities of splendid fish of all sorts in them, but all who had angled there agreed that the fish were "highly educated," and wanted a proficient master to lure them from their crystal abodes. A letter was read from Mr. H. Short, in which that gentleman stated that he had interviewed Mr. Bailey, the renter of the fishery at Sewardstone, and he had been so far successful as to obtain the offer of that celebrated fishery for the Clapton society. The members thanked Mr. Short very heartily for obtaining so capital an offer, and expressed their entire willingness to accept it. The chairman proposed, and it was unanimously carried, that the matter be left in the hands of the secretary, who, with Mr. Short, Mr. Binks, and Mr. Graham Bennett, agreed to call on Mr. Bailey to complete all arrangements. Consultation amongst members on this matter led to several gentlemen praising the water very warmly, a gentleman saying that two years ago he took out seven jack on an afternoon in the winter, the largest 9½ lb., the smallest 3½ lb. Another gentleman instanced large catches of very fine chub, &c. The secretary reported that the financial position of the society was thoroughly sound, and that after paying all necessary incidental expenses, &c., and providing for the rentals of the waters taken, and to be taken, there would remain a satisfactory balance to the society's credit in the hands of the treasurer. Five new members were proposed, and a hearty vote of thanks to the chairman closed the proceedings so far as the business was concerned. Mr. Winterbottom then gave a capital selection on the pianoforte, and many members sang, notably Messrs. Worth, Tibbatts, Binks, Bashford, &c. A most enjoyable convivial meeting was brought to a close about 11 o'clock. The members may now congratulate themselves in their newly-acquired rights of angling nearly twenty miles of strictly preserved waters so immediately in their own neighbourhoods, and I quite anticipate that at the end of the season the Clapton Anglers will take a "front position" in the record of "specimen" catches by their members.—HENRY HOWSE, hon. sec.

CRESCENT ANGLING SOCIETY.

A number of our members were out on the 18th inst. for the first competition of the season. The prizes—first, £2 2s.; second, £1 1s.; third, 10s 6d.—were taken. A fine show of roach and dace from the Thames. Our new member, Mr. Woodman, who is well known on the south side as a fisherman, opened our eyes with a grand show of barbel, perch, dace, &c., the largest barbel going 5½ lb., and a magnificent trout from the Kennett of 5 lb., which has been sent for preservation. A very large number of members were present, and three gentlemen were proposed for election. Any gentlemen wishing to join one of the most select societies this side of the water should look in any Wednesday evening at the Giraffe Tavern, Newington Crescent, S.E.—H. T. T. ROSS, sec.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

DUKE OF NORFOLK ANGLING SOCIETY.

We fished our match on the 22nd inst. at the association's waters at West Drayton with a very poor result, only two members having taken sufficient to secure prizes, Mr. Sullins taking first with 13 oz. of fish, Mr. Harriss, second, with 10 oz. Two prizes not taken. The waters are full of fish, but not very large.—J. AVON, sec.

GLOBE ANGLING SOCIETY.

Most of the members of this society paid a visit to Amberley on the 22nd inst., to fish for a series of prizes, and several of them met with very fair sport, Mr. S. Orrom coming in first with 9 lb. of roach and bream; Mr. C. Russell, second, with 5 lb., closely followed by Messrs. S. Howell, W. Whatcott, J. J. Holmes, C. Franklin, H. Jeffries, F. Lawrence, C. Elis, J. Titmus, and J. Philpot. Mr. J. Ballard had bream from the Welsh Harp.—J. J. HOLMES, sec.

GOLDEN BARBEL.

On the 24th a reunion took place among the members of this society at Mr. Lerner's, York Minster, Foley Street, Portland Road, between 40 and 50 old and new members being present during the evening, amongst them being:—Messrs. J. Green, J. Hotham, J. Jones, J. Roach, R. Fellows, J. Stanton, R. Smith, T. Bigsby, and many other "Old Familiar Faces." Mr. F. Kemp and some friends from the Fitzroy were also present. The distribution of prizes took up a short time during the evening, £10 being distributed between Messrs. J. Green, J. Jones, J. Jones, jun., J. Roach, E. Henrie, C. Whitehead, J. Allen, J. Stanton, Crow, and Lawford. Four specimen prizes fell to Messrs. Entwistle, Chapman, Whitehead, and Henrie, for teach, dace, bream, and carp. Mr. J. Green took first gross. The gross weight during the season amounted to about 500 lb. all told. The following prizes were offered for competition during the coming season:—F. Kemp, £1 os. od.; Mr. Green, £1 os. od.; Mr. J. Jones, £1 5s. od.; Whitehead, 10s.; J. Roach, 5s.; Henrie, 15s.; J. H. 5s.; T. Bigsby, 10s. Our friends from the Fitzroy entertained us with selections on wind and stringed instruments. Messrs. J. Jones, Goudge, Allen, jun., Henrie, F. Dogget, and Emrie gave songs. As midnight approached I departed. A friendly contest took place on the 2nd, members being allowed to go where they liked, with the following result:—Mr. J. Mr. J. Green 1st, with roach perch, and bream, one roach turning the scale at 1 lb. 7½ oz.; Mr. J. Jones 2nd, perch and dace; Henrie, chub; Whitehead, bream. Messrs. Fowler and Lawford also had fish. Mr. Jourquet exhibited a nice trout and some splendid perch. The Thames, Medway, Arun, and Colne contributed the above. The members present intend paying a complimentary visit to the Fitzroy on July 8th, which I trust will be a bumper.—PRIXE.

GREAT NORTHERN BROTHERS ANGLING SOCIETY.

June 22nd, our first day for weighing in, proved very unfavourable for fishing; our show of fish being a long way off what we anticipated; but we do not regret this, as the roach and bream are at present not at all in a clean condition. With few exceptions, the whole of our members fished Pulbore and Amberley. Mr. G. Watling had the heaviest weight, 5 lb. 14 oz. The following members also weighed in:—Messrs. Walker, J. Fitch, W. Theobald, J. Watling, O. Warren, J. Hewitt, J. K. Fitch, R. Hill, J. Page, S. Baker, W. Baillie, and T. King. We elected five members at our last meeting, and proposed two new ones. We have vacancies for a few more.—J. FITCH, sec.

GREAT YARMOUTH PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

At the weekly meeting on Tuesday the president had the pleasure of distributing the prizes won at the contest on Thursday week, which, although the day was anything but suitable for angling, took place at Fritton Lake. The first prize, which was the President's presentation, fell to Mr. Lowne, taxidermist, of Fuller's Hill, for 24 lb. weight of bream. The second prize, which was presented by Mr. Budds, fishing tackle depot, of Howard Street, fell to the secretary, J. W. Lark, for 12 lb. of fish, 5½ lb. bream, and a splendid specimen of carp, weighing 6½ lb. The third prize, presented by C. K. Lamb, silversmith, of Market Row, fell to Mr. Bacon, for 10½ lb. of fish, chiefly bream. The fourth prize, being the Society's prize, fell to Mr. W. Bayfield, who chose fishing tackle. The next best business of the evening was the entering of W. Barnard, Esq., Mayor of the Borough, as an honorary member, who kindly sent the secretary one guinea as his first subscription, although not an angler, congratulating the secretary on the success that has attended his efforts in the formation of the society, trusting that it would have a prosperous future. The next was R. B. Marston, Esq., the Editor of the FISHING GAZETTE, who, it will be remembered, gave the society a volume of the GAZETTE for a roach prize some time since. The next was W. V. Ditcham, Esq., of Heathville, Blackheath. The next was Mr. W. Wilkinson, of Yarmouth. The next was Mr. Pycraft, of Yarmouth. The next was Mr. R. Tooley, of Yarmouth. At the close of the evening it was finally resolved that the next contest should be held on Thursday, July 10th, when the vice-president's presentation will be the first, A. Turner, Esq.'s, the second, Mr. Lawrance's the third, and the society's the fourth.—J. LARK, sec.

GRESHAM ANGLING SOCIETY.

The usual weekly meeting of the above society was held at the Masons' Hall Tavern on Tuesday evening, Dr. Cash in the chair. The minutes of the last meeting were read, confirmed, and signed. A letter was read from the Central Association, stating that they had now secured the benefit of privilege tickets on the whole of the railways as before, including the Great Western and South-Western lines, and that the yearage would be half of the former charge. The society has already determined to leave the selection of the privilege ticket to the wish of each member, but the majority of applications up to the present time are for Central Association tickets. Mr. Curris weighed in two very fine barbel, the heavier one scaling 6½ lb. In pursuance of notices given at the meeting on the 10th inst., Captain Alfred moved a modification in rule 3, so as to make the hon. solicitor an ex-officio member of the committee. This was supported by Mr. Crumplen, who recapitulated some of the services which Mr. Godwin had rendered the society, and, on being put to the meeting, was carried unanimously. An alteration in rule 19 was then proposed by Mr. Chambers and seconded by Captain Alfred. The rule as amended will materially simplify the work of dealing with subscriptions in arrears. It was, after some little discussion, also unanimously adopted. Mr. Sachs presented the two volumes (making three in all) of "Buckland's British Fishes." These form part of the prizes for the coming season. A vote of thanks was unanimously accorded to him, and also to Dr. Cash, for his able conduct in the chair. The usual musical selections followed. The secretary desires respectfully to inform the members that his present address is No. 5, Chrissell Road, North Brixton, S.W.—H.

HIGHBURY ANGLING SOCIETY.

Since the opening day of the season, several of our members have tried some of their favourite swims, both in the Thames and Lea, with more or less success. Mr. Frank Temple, on the 17th inst., had a very nice show of dace from the upper waters of the Thames; and on the 22nd inst., Messrs. Shipley, Lewis, Edwards, Devonshire, Edward Wheatley, Otway, sen., Otway, jun., and many others brought to grass some excellent chub, roach, bream, and dace, Mr. Shipley being the winner of a capital prize given by Mr. Edwards for the heaviest weight of all fish taken on the first Sunday after the fence months.—JAS. EDWARD WHEATLEY, sec.

HOXTON BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

We had a very fair show for the opening night on the 22nd inst., consisting of perch, dace, chub, and tench. Only a few members out.—R. GHURNEY.

INDEPENDENT BROTHERS ANGLING SOCIETY.

Our first outing took place on the 22nd inst. for a handsome fishing rod, presented by Mr. Ellis, host of the Lincoln Arms, York Road, King's Cross, and which was won by the secretary, H. Moore. Messrs. Leader, Roberts, Clark, and Coomes also weighed in fish. Our show was not as we should have liked to have seen it, but hope to report better next week.—H. MOORE, sec.

IZAAK WALTON ANGLING SOCIETY.

The members compe ed for three special prizes on the 22nd inst. Mr. B. Crook secured first honours, Mr. A. Bass second, Mr. H. Butt third. Messrs. W. Wilkinson, J. K. Charters, J. Twohey, W. H. Hawkes, weighed in on the same evening. Mr. D. Auburn had two handsome perch, the heaviest weighed 1 lb. 4 oz., the other 15 oz. Mr. W. Wilshire had a handsome show of dace on Wednesday, and two fine trout. Mr. G. Bliss had bream on the same day. The members dine at Mr. J. Lyndsell's, the Pied Bull, St. Margaret's, on the 29th inst.—Dinner on table at 2 o'clock.—H. B.

LINCOLN ANGLING SOCIETY.

Our members took first their outing this season, on the 22nd, for five prizes at St. Margarets, starting from the club house in a handsome brake drawn by three horses. Our worthy host accompanied us and came out in his old and jolly good style, providing refreshments, &c., for every man, and a most enjoyable day was spent, but we are sorry to say our show of fish was small, only two prizes being taken. Hope to do better next time.—H. BINGLE, Sec.

MARLBOROUGH ANGLING SOCIETY.

The members of this society commemorated the opening of the season on the

19th by having a supper at Mr. Williamson's, the Marlborough Head, Mar-mont Road, Peckham. Among those present were Lieutenants Marsh and Brewer, Messrs. A. Edmonds, Martin, Agland, Boorman, Williamson, Godley, Gold, Hotham, Steward, Holloway, and several others. Mr. A. Edmonds presided during the repast, which gave great credit to Mr. and Mrs. Williamson. The cloth having been cleared, Lieutenant Marsh, assisted by Mr. Brewer, took office, and a very pleasant evening was spent with ancient and modern ballads, contributed by the chairman, Messrs. Holloway, Hotham, Gold, Evinson, Fisher, Richardson, Kearnes, and Stone, the last named singing "Come into the garden, Maud" in grand style, and called for much applause. At the peep of dawn we retired, wishing each other success and big fish on our next outing. On the 22nd, Mr. Boorman and some friends were out, and they managed to get a few fish.—PIXIE.

ORIGINAL CLERKENWELL PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

Our annual supper took place on the 18th inst, which was a success. Our Host Mr. Knight deserves great credit for the able manner in which he catered for us. I need not mention those present did justice to the menu provided. Chairman, Mr. Murray, vice-chairman, Mr. Ormond. The usual toasts were given "Success to the Society," "Thames Angling Preservation Society," to which a gentleman responded well-known on that efficient staff. The Pres., coupled with that of the Visitors was responded to by Mr. Crumplin. The prizes were presented to the winners, and were quite up to those of previous seasons. The most fortunate were Mr. Edward Longman, G. Drew, Craffard, Drew, senr., Obbard, Richardson, Laundry, and others. A round number was booked down for the ensuing season. The corks having been drawn by this time from a dozen of champagne, the rest of our time was devoted to harmony, when as you know several good songs were given. Visitors: the Gresham, Crown, Convivial, and Reform, the general will take place on June 30th to arrange prize list and matters of importance. Some of the members were out on the 22nd, and on their return some capital fish were brought to scale. Mr. Drew, bream 3 lb. 11 oz.; one perch, 1 lb. 2 oz.; Mr. G. Drew, roach and dace, 3 lb. 9 oz.; Mr. Longman, roach and dace, 8 lb. 5 oz.; Mr. Craffard, roach, 4 lb. 15 oz., one 1 lb. 2 oz.; Mr. Kent, roach, 4 lb. 7 oz., Mr. J. Drew, had 11 lb. of roach, bream, and barbel, largest fish, 3 lb. 15.—T. OBBARD, sec.

PECKHAM BROTHERS' ANGLING SOCIETY.

The members of this club mustered in good numbers on the 17th, and were treated to a sight which must have done them all a great deal of good, J. Stidolph showing a carp, taken that day from Wimbledon Lake, weighing 9 lb. 5 oz. It was a splendid fish and in good condition; it was handed over to Mr. Needham for preservation. Mr. Morgan, the host of the White Hart, Camberwell, also showed a fine tray of fish, one a chub close on 5 lb., several fine dace, the largest 10½ oz., and also some good roach, the result of a few hours' fishing in the Kennett. Our worthy President, Mr. Brodie, with a friend, fished the "Baron's" water at Tring, and brought away 30 lb.; some of the perch were pictures.—GADFLY.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

The members of the above fished their first match on the 22nd, at Wey-bridge; the takes of fish were very small. The winners were as follows:—Messrs. Kemp, Duke, Gardham, and Stidolph. Messrs. Gafney and White also had fish. The usual quarterly meeting for the election of officers takes place on the 1st July; all members are requested to attend. A match for the President's Cup will take place on the 6th, at Amberley; members wishing to take part in this match will please attend on Tuesday next. One of our members, J. Stidolph, had a splendid carp, 9 lb. 5 oz., from Wimbledon Lake last week. Mr. Morgan also had a chub about 5 lb., and some fine dace from the Kennett. Needham has charge of both carp and chub. Ten of our members take part in the South London match at Staines, on the 29th. I hope the winner will turn up in—GADFLY.

PHENIX ANGLING SOCIETY.

Our members were out in force on the 22nd inst., at Pulborough and Amberley. Three prizes were contested for, and although a glorious day, not many fish were caught. The inimitable Arthur Ashley, after keeping us alive all day, and the journey up and down, won the first (club) prize; Mr. Reed, second; Mr. G. Bentley, third; Cock Robin, Bartrip, Burnett, Milton, Margetts, Baillie, Clarke, Keen, and Elbourn, contributing their share of fish. Members' privilege tickets and prize lists are now ready. On Tuesday next (quarterly night) all members are requested to attend for matters of importance.—W. E., Sec.

PORTSMOUTH WALTONIAN ANGLING SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of the above society took place on Thursday the 19th, inst., at the club room, The Golden Fleece, Commercial Road. A very large gathering of the members were present, the principal business being the reading of the balance-sheet for the past year, and the election of officers for the ensuing, the former being most favourably received, showing a good balance in hand for the next year. Sir Frederick FitzWygram, Bart. (the newly-elected M.P. for South Hants), was unanimously elected as the future president of the club, he having taken great interest in the society, allowing its members permission to fish in the waters of his charming estate, "Leigh," at Havant. Mr. A. L. Emanuel was elected as chairman, and Mr. J. S. Dyer, vice-chairman. Mr. Roots has accepted the post of honorary secretary, Mr. Tranter having resigned after seven years' good service. Captain Hill will still retain his old office as their hon. treasurer. The society is one of the most flourishing in the south, muster over 120 angling members, and is still progressing. Besides the public waters in the neighbourhood, they rent a fine stretch of about three miles of the river Rother, at Durford, another stream at Emsworth, besides a portion of the Itchen, at Winchester, principally devoted to trout fishing, for those who angle with the fly. On the afternoon of the same date a good muster of the members had their first competition for the year at their old quarters, Chichester Canal. The weather was everything that could be wished for by anglers, and some very fair catches were obtained. Mr. G. Fulljames, first, with a pike in first-rate condition, weighing over 6 lb. Mr. Buck, second, with bream, 3 lb.; Mr. Hiscock, third, bream, 2½ lb.; the whole being caught above Hunston Bridge. The canal in some parts is totally unfit for angling just now, being full of weeds, but the higher reaches are in capital condition.—DAGGERWOOD.

[For conclusion of Club Reports, see p. 310.]

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in this or other parts of this paper; but beg our readers to expose any case of im-
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Column are 6d. per line for one, or 4d. per line for more than one insertion.
Address Manager, FISHING GAZETTE, 12 and 13, Fetter Lane, London, and send
stamps with the order, or the advertisement cannot be inserted.

WANTED.—Particulars and prices of Secondhand Books on Angling and Fish Culture.
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London, E.C.

Superior Trout Flies, 8d. per dozen. See Editor's Notice, March 22nd, 1884. Special
terms to Fishing Tackle Houses. J. Palmer, Littleworth, Redditch.
The Pocket Fly Case, containing one dozen best Trout Flies, 1s., free.—Palmer, Red-
ditch.

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RIVER REPORTS.

TIME OF HIGH WATER IN THE THAMES.

To find the time of high water in the Thames at any of the following places,
to the time of high water at London Bridge (given below).

Add

30 minutes for Chelsea.
40 " Putney.
45 " Hammersmith.
50 " Barnes.
55 " Kew.
75 " Richmond.
80 " Twickenham.
85 " Teddington.

Example:—If it is high water at 2 o'clock at London Bridge, it will be high
water at Teddington about 3.25, or eighty-five minutes later; but it must be
remembered that a strong wind accelerates or retards the tide very much.

For TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.

Morning. Afternoon.

Saturday, June 28 .. 5.25 .. 5.47

Sunday, " 29 .. 6.10 .. 6.33

Monday, " 30 .. 6.57 .. 7.21

Tuesday, July 1 .. 7.47 .. 8.14

Wednesday, " 2 .. 8.43 .. 9.16

Thursday, " 3 .. 9.53 .. 10.26

Friday, " 4 .. 10.58 .. 11.29

NOTE.—New moon, June 23; dog days begin July 3.

THE LOWER THAMES.

GENERAL REMARKS.

Chub and barbel are very plentiful at Teddington. The bream have been
coming to the fore at Walton. The water is still very low in the tideway; one
of the old fishermen says he has not seen it so low for 45 years. Passengers
have been crossing from one side to the other without let or hindrance. The
Island Hotel has been approached without the need of boats, and Mr. Anderson
has given a luncheon on the bed of the river. A cricket-match has also been
played, and photographed. The deficiency of water between the tides has
stopped fishing to a great extent. At Hampton Court the water has been
discoloured, and the fish are said to be covered with a small, flat insect. The
river requires a good rainfall.

Richmond.

H. Mansell, in a take of fourteen dozen of roach and dace, during four days,
has caught some very fine roach. Job Brain, in the same time, in addition to
twelve dozen of roach and dace, has taken four barbel, up to 3 lb. each.
Frank Brown, in one day, three dozen of roach and dace; and C. Brown, in

the course of the week, fifteen dozen of roach and dace, and a barbel of 2½ lb. Several of the bank anglers have been getting barbel up to 3 lb. each. Mr. Wessom, in one day, 7 lb. of fish; and J. Branch, 37 fish.

Twickenham.

John Spong, one day, with Mr. Fredericks, eighteen dace; another day, with Mr. Goodyer, three dozen of dace; another day, with Mr. Walker and his brother, eight dozen of dace. John Dibbin, in three days, three barbel, the largest 3 lb.; and six dozen of roach and dace. George Coxen, in five days, fifteen dozen; Samuel Colz, in the same time, fifteen dozen, and a couple of barbel. Edward Finch, in seven days, thirty dozen, and three small barbel. A couple of young gentlemen, in a private boat, have caught some very handsome dace.

Teddington.

Benjamin Stevens, during the week, has taken a jack, of 8 lb., and twelve chub, the largest, 6½ lb. Frank Kemp has landed a chub, of 4½ lb. J. Stevens, in three days, fifteen chub, averaging 2½ lb. each. Joseph Baldwin, in two days, six chub, of 1½ lb. each. Two of the bank anglers got four barbel, of about 4 lb. each.

Kingston.

B. Pope, in four days, fourteen dozen of roach and dace, ten bream, one carp, 4 lb., and a barbel of 4 lb. John Johnson, jun., in five days, ten brace of perch, a bream of 3½ lb., ten barbel, seventeen chub, and three dozen of roach and dace. John Johnson, sen., in one day, 2½ dozen of roach and dace, and a couple of barbel. The bank anglers have been getting some good roach and dace, and during the week ten barbel, a jack of 7 lb., and about twenty bream. At Surbiton, there has been similar sport, including thirty bream, up to 5 lb. each, and thirty chub.

Hampton Court.

Mr. Woods, of East Moulsey, on Tuesday last, at the weir, caught a handsome trout, of 11 lb. Charles Davis, in one day, eight chub. T. Wheeler, in three days, eight chub, six barbel (the largest, 7 lb.), six dozen of roach and dace, and a small trout, which was put back again. John Smith, in two days, eight chub; and T. Davies, in one day, 10 lb. weight of chub.

Sunbury.

Messrs. Edward Clarke and Sons, in three days, twenty dozen of roach and dace, and a barbel of 3½ lb. The bank anglers have been getting some good roach and dace.

Walton.

George Hone, in one day, with Mr. Carabe, four dozen of roach and dace. R. Watford, in one day, four dozen of roach and dace, three bream, and a small jack. One of the anglers, fly-fishing, caught a nice trout of 2½ lb., and two smaller ones, which were returned. One gentleman in the hour got nineteen fine bream. George Hone, jun., in one day, four dozen of roach, three bream of 1½ lb. each, and a jack of 2½ lb. John Hone, in one day, sixteen large bream, and one brace of jack. The angling visitors at the Swan Hotel have been making some good baskets of fish, and the proprietor has enlisted the support of the anglers from his desire to look after their interests.

Shepperton.

Henry Purdue, in one day, a jack of 5 lb. one brace of perch weighing 1½ lb., and three dozen of gudgeons. W. Rogerson, seven brace of perch, and two dozen of roach and dace. F. Purdue, a jack of 3 lb., one brace of perch, eighteen dace, and one dozen of gudgeons. Thomas Strudwicke, at Hallford, about four dozen of roach and dace. George Rosewell, during the season, has caught twenty-three trout, up to 13 lb. each, one of his clients alone having taken twelve good fish. This does not include one of 2 lb., which was put back again.

Water still very low, and in very bad condition. No fish will be caught until we get two or three days' rain to cleanse the water. Out fishing two days; caught two dozen gudgeon, two perch 1½ lb., one dozen and a half of dace, Jack 2 lb.—F. PURDUE.

Weybridge.

Herbert Curr, in one day, four dozen of roach and dace; and another day, six dozen, and a perch of 1½ lb. J. Upstall, in one day, six bream, and one dozen of roach and dace; and another day, two dozen. T. Poulter, in one day, one dozen.

Chertsey.

J. Poulter, in one day, a trout of 2½ lb., four dozen of roach, and a couple of bream. T. Taylor, one day, two dozen of roach and dace; and another day, about three dozen, and one jack. A gentleman from the bank, eighteen good roach. Mr. Mason, a good trout, of 6 lb. 11 oz.; and another angler, fishing from the bank, at Truss's Island, a handsome trout of 7 lb.

Staines.

Mr. E. Haines has taken a trout of 3 lb. G. Osman, one day, three barbel and two chub; another day, three dozen of roach and dace, and a couple of barbel; and another day, an assortment of barbel, perch, chub, and roach. Mr. W. Jones, of the Swan Hotel, has limited his operations to the roach and dace, and they have only responded to a limited extent. J. Keene, jun., one day, a trout of 2½ lb., and a chub of 1½ lb.; and another day, with Mr. G. F. Spencer, a fine pike of 13½ lb. A gentleman, fishing from Bell Weir, has taken a trout of 4½ lb.; and another gentleman, from the bank, one of 5 lb.

Sonning.

I am pleased to say the fishing opened a great deal better than I expected. Mr. Easton was out last Saturday, and caught a nice trout over 4 lb., and lost another (a very good one), fourteen perch, some over ¾ lb., a lot of chub, largest 3 lb. Another gentleman, out two days fly-fishing, caught over a score of chub. A great many, fishing round about here, have taken some very nice perch, 1½ lb. each, and several small trout, which were put back again. The water is as low as ever I have seen it at this time of year. I do not think there will be very many fish taken till we get some rain, as the water must be very stale.—W. HULL.

Docket Point.

Two days' fishing—four bream, one eel, two perch, seven chub, put back. Three days'—one bream, two chub, put back. Water very low. We are looking anxiously for rain. The fish are very shy at present, though there are plenty.—J. HASLETT.

UPPER THAMES.

The extraordinary brightness of the river has precluded any out-of-the-way takes during the week; indeed, I only hear of a fair catch of roach, perch, and chub, by a banker, at Maidenhead; and of a fine haul at Hurley of nine eels, six takable trout (one a very takable one, as it took itself off from Hurley to Marlow after being cooked), one barbel, and a fine show of chub, roach, and perch, all being had with Nottingham lobs. If rain falls sport will assuredly accrue to those who venture patience and temper it with a little exposure, as the river is swarming with coarse fish.—MARLOW BUZZ.

Datchet.

Water still very low and the want of rain much felt. From Windsor there is nothing of any note to mention. On the 22nd, patron with H. Hoare, three barbel and a nice lot of dace, 25 lb.; J. Hoare, with a patron, a good lot of dace and a few small chub; H. Hoare, on the 26th, two barbel; on the 22nd, J. Bentley, in the Fleet, a trout, 3½ lb., with live minnow; on the 20th, R. F. Lines, with me, seven barbel, eight chub, and a nice lot of dace; next evening, a barbel, 3 lb.; with a patron, on the 25th, one barbel and three respectable chub. The dace are biting well.—G. LUMSDEN.

Goring.

Water now in very good order. Perch coming on very well; roach not on much. My best day, two dozen of good perch and one jack.—JOHN RUSH.

Ancholme District.

The weather has not been very favourable for fishing, and the sport has been but moderate. Trout are, despite the pike, becoming more numerous in the neighbourhood of Brigg. A nice one, of 1½ lb., was caught on the 16th inst. I am still taking holiday, and had the great pleasure of landing, one day last week, five trout, having a total weight of nearly 11 lb. The two largest were 3½ lb. and 2½ lb. respectively.—THOMAS FORD, Caistor.

Ballynahinch.

Since last report, nothing of consequence has been done on above, water still being low; in fact, so low, that it is impossible for fish to get into the lake. These last three days we have had a very sign of a change, but no rain has yet fallen. Both salmon and trout are showing well in the bay. Also the nets are doing fairly.—WALTER BLACKADDER.

Chichester.

Sport has materially improved during the past week. The bream have been feeding well in the lower reaches. Mr. Young had the highest score, 20 lb. of nice fish, on Monday; and on Tuesday over 14 lb. Mr. Terry had also good sport, 9½ lb. falling to his share, the largest scaling 3 lb. 2 oz. The water in the Birdham district is very free from weeds, the swans doing good service. From Selham, I hear this morning, some very fine roach and dace have been taken, Mr. Dabbs, on Monday, landing a dace weighing 16½ oz. Various have been the baits at the canal, the gentles proving the most successful.—GEORGE F. SALTER.

Dee (Aberdeenshire).

The past week showed an improvement in the fishings along the coast, especially in regard to those connected with the Harbour channel, the cove, Altens and Nigg, where the takes, considering the very quiet, glassy nature of the sea, were regarded as good. At all the stations south of the cove little improvement over the past week was manifested, but at the stations noted above, shots varying from ten to thirty salmon, fifteen to one hundred grilse, and a hundred or so of grilse were got. Within a few miles of Dee mouth nearly three thousand salmon, grilse, and sea trout were got during the week. In Dee the net fishing was, on the whole, good considering the small clear state of the river, and by the appearance grilse are making, if a flood were to take place, angling would, we reckon, yet turn out very fair. Rod fishing, though many grilse and sea trout have run up, is yet very poor, as the river is exceedingly low and clear, the water in addition being too warm to encourage free rising. The fish are all out of the usual casts, and into swirls and inaccessible places behind stones, where any attempt to play a fly successfully over them is almost out of the question. The silver doctor, Dee sun-fly, and black spider, have been the deadliest in the daytime last week; and the peacock, dodger, and skier in the evening. Messrs. Wm. Blacklaws and Son, rod and fishing tackle makers, Kincardine O'Neil, report that on the Ballgie water on Tuesday of last week, Major Leith Hay had 1 grilse, 4½ lb., and on Friday another of the same weight; further, that on the Norton House water, on Wednesday, Wm. Lamond, Esq., landed 1 sea trout, 3½ lb. weight. On the Inchmarlo water on Monday of last week, Duncan Davidson, Esq., landed 1 fish, 9 lb., and on Thursday another of 9½ lb. On the Riverstone section, Davie Nicoll had 1 grilse, 3 lb., and 1 sea trout 2 lb. On the Invery section, Wright, keeper, had 1 grilse, 3 lb.; and on Kineskie, Geo. Bremner, fisherman, landed 1 salmon, 10½ lb., and 1 sea trout 2½ lb. D. Rae, on Cairnton, had 1 fish, 7½ lb. On the Five Arms Dee fishings, 5 fish were got during the week; and on the Invercauld Dee fishings, Braemar, Mr. J. C. Wordie and party had very good takes almost daily. Report of Mr. George Smith, saddler and fishing tackle merchant, Ballater:—Invercauld Arms Hotel Water, Ballater, F. M. T. Simmons, Esq., Wednesday, 1 fish, 10 lb.; Thursday, 1 fish, 9 lb.; Mrs. Simmons, Wednesday, 1 fish, 8 lb.; Thursday 1 fish, 7 lb.; Skinner, Esq., Tuesday, 1 fish, 9 lb.; Wednesday, 2 grilse, 2½ and 4½ lb. Morven Water: Colonel Keen, Tuesday, 2 fish, 9 and 10 lb.; Thursday, 2 fish, 7 and 8 lb.; Friday, 1 fish, 7 lb.; J. McHardy, keeper, Friday, 1 fish, 8 lb. Monaltrie Water: Captain Napier, Wednesday, 1 fish, 8½ lb.; Lieut. Gordon, 1 grilse, 5½ lb. Invercauld Arms Hotel Water: John Sturton, Friday, 1 fish, 11 lb.; Saturday, 2 fish, 9 and 8 lb.; Monday (this week), 2 fish, 7½ and 8 lb. Mr. Dawson, at Bridge of Feugh, 1 grilse, 3 lb.; Davie Nicoll, 1 grilse, 2 lb. on the Riverstone section. Aboynie District: On the Aboynie Castle water, one salmon of 9 lb. was got on Wednesday. On the Huntly Arms Hotel Water, Mr. Jas. Finlayson, on Monday, landed one fish, 8 lb.; and on Tuesday, one fish, 9 lb. On the Glenanar Water, on Monday, the party of Wm. Cunliffe Brooks, Esq., M.P., landed one grilse and two salmon, 4, 8, and 11 lb.; Tuesday, five salmon, 6 to 13 lb.; Wednesday, two salmon, 7 and 9 lb.; Thursday, one salmon, 12 lb.; Friday, three salmon, 6 to 10 lb.; Saturday, two salmon, 7 and 9 lb. Only three or four salmon were got on the Cambus o' May Water last week. It is not being fished regularly. The double Limericks, Nos. 6, 7, 8, 9, are the best sizes just now for day fishing, and a size or two larger after 9 in the evening. Fungoid prevail less extensively.—W. M.

Dove.

The weather has been very cloudy all the week, and the river has been running extremely low and fine. We want rain badly. The May-fly is not yet over. The grey drakes, however, are out. The May-fly cannot be said this year to have been at all strong on the water. On the main river, sport has not been up to the average, which I attribute to the state of the water, which has had next to no colour in it for weeks. The tributaries have afforded the best remuneration, and I think they will continue to do so until we get three or four days' drenching showers. The Blythe, the Longford, and Bradbourne brooks have been largely visited; more so than the main river. One hears now and again that somebody has killed as many as twenty brace of trout; but not in a single instance have I been able to discover that the reports are based on solid fact. The average of dishes has been about six brace—not more. I think the smaller sorts of flies will be found the most useful for next week. Owing to the clearness of the water, the coarse-fishers have not been able to do much good at present.—THE SPODGER.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

Trout, after their feed on the May fly, are now retiring into deeper water, such of it as they can find, for with the river quite wadeable, it is no easy matter for the fish to find above three feet of liquid. We want rain badly. The water continues as fine as gin, and sport during this week has been very indifferent, the takes not averaging more than five brace at the outside. The May-fly is now off the surface, and the grey drakes are on pretty thick. The general opinion is that a worse May fly season has not been known for some years. There are myriads of trout in our river, but they never seemed to rise this year so freely at the fly as is their wont—the reason, no doubt, being that there were much fewer green drakes present than usual. The bottom fishers are doing next to nothing, owing to the clearness of the river.—THE SPODGER.

Exe (Exeter).

Since my last report some very fair coarse fishing has been had in the canal and river among the perch and roach. I, fortunately, took forty-one roach ten minutes walk from home, largest $1\frac{1}{2}$ lb., and about fifteen $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. each. Some trout have also done very well with black gnat and Palmers. I got five weighing 5 lb., the largest only 2 oz. short of being a 2-pounder. I have found Guise's flies on enamel hooks very killing, and no doubt your readers will know the Redditch firm of the name.—J. A. KELLEY.

Exe (Tiverton).

No rain having fallen, the river is consequently extremely low. Late in the evening trout rise pretty freely, the fern web, cowdung, red ant, and magpie having proved to be the best killers. During the past week chloride of lime has been freely used in some of the pits immediately below the town, killing a quantity of trout and one salmon, at least. The papers which contained the lime have been picked up. Investigation is going on, and report says the parties are likely to be brought to light. A short time since the river Lowman was served in the same way.—WM. MUDFORD.

Leicester.

The rivers in this neighbourhood are badly in need of rain. To this cause may be attributed the scarcity of sport since the season began. The Leicester society's waters abound with fish, but at present it is the share of anglers to see them in the waters only, and although a large number are fishing daily, only a few have had anything like good takes. The most successful rodsters that I could hear of were Mr. J. W. Neale, who took $6\frac{1}{2}$ lb. of roach, the largest of which weighed 1 lb. 6 oz., and another 1 lb. $3\frac{1}{2}$ oz. Mr. W. Bevey, of the Leicester Roving Anglers, caught five dozen roach, perch, and bream, and eight dozen were landed by Mr. Barrows, from some private waters near this town. Messrs. Neale, G. Harding, Bird, and Stafford, showed good lots of roach. The largest fish in Mr. Neale's basket weighed 1 lb. $3\frac{1}{2}$ oz., and 1 lb. 3 oz. respectively—taken from the brook at Aylestone in excellent condition. A few nice perch and dace have been had from these waters; not many chub have been taken, but those caught were had by means of the fly late in the evening when the fish are rising. The river at Narborough is in a similar condition to the waters near Leicester—badly in need of rain—consequently sport has been tame. The best baits are caddis, straw, worms, and white paste. The weather at the time of writing (late on Thursday evening) dull and sultry, with but little prospect of a downpour.—ALERT.

Lugg and Arrow.

There is but little difference in the state of these streams this week, both still keeping clear and very low. The fish are rising well in the streams, and some very fine trout have been taken with the governor, orle, and blue dun, which flies the fish rise best to, and are sure killers. In both these rivers there have of late been seen some very fine pike, but all attempts to catch them with a minnow or any other bait, have proved to be no good, as they will not bite. Fishing on Friday in the Lugg with the fly, a gentleman took a splendid lot of fine trout averaging from $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. each. Some very good sport was had in the Arrow the same day with the governor and orle, and a gentleman took a splendid lot of trout, weighing 6 lb. the lot. The Arrow was tried on Saturday, and some very good trout were landed with the blue dun. A very good day's sport was had by a gent in the Lugg, and a good basket of trout was landed with the blue dun and orle. On Monday the sun was shining brightly and the fish were rising well at the fly; one gentleman in the Lugg took a nice lot of trout with the orle. In the Arrow some good sport was had, and several good lots of fish were landed with the governor and blue dun. A gentleman visited this part on Tuesday with the fly, and in the Arrow, a short distance from Leominster, he took a beautiful basket of trout, some scaling $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. each. In the Lugg a very nice lot of trout were taken with the fly the same day. Some very good fish have been taken in the Shobden waters this week with the blue dun. The Pinsley is in good fishing order, and the fish are rising freely at the fly. On Monday a very nice dish of trout was taken with the orle, and a few nice trout were taken with the fly on Tuesday.—GWYNNE.

Medway (Tonbridge).

The dry weather and lowness of water are not calculated to improve fishing, and as a matter of consequence, very few large bags have been made; but a few persistent anglers who have been out have had moderate success amongst the pike, perch, chub, and roach. The perch in particular are most plentiful this year, judging by the large number caught. What is wanted is a good shower, and then sport would be fast and furious for—YE MEDWAY WATER RAT.

Ouse (Huntingdon).

The river is in want of some rain to cause the fish to feed, for they are very

quiet. Very few have been taken during the last week, owing to the quiet water. The weather being bright and hot has caused thousands of bream to rise near the surface of the water daily; such a sight which has not been witnessed for some years. There has not been a good take of fish yet as might be expected, and will not be until the weather changes.—H. ROUT.

Pickering (North-East Yorkshire).

Waters all around here are dead low, lower by much than they have been for many years. Fishing for trout and grayling has, therefore, been almost quite at a standstill—a depressing and desperate enterprise. The May-fly season has been a wretched failure; not, as in some parts, so much for want of flies, as there has been a fair amount of fly shown up in a sprinkling, uncertain kind of way; but still there has been plenty for good sport had the weather been right in other ways. But all through the season there has been a persistent sulkiness about the fish, especially trout, that is truly marvellous. We have often known them have sulky fits of a week or ten days in previous years; but when the thing goes on for three months, it becomes an interesting mystery what they do live on, or whether they cease to feed all the time or not. Grayling have not been so difficult to move as trout, and many fine fish have fallen victims to the artificial May-fly. Of course, the low state of some of the waters gave a grand chance to certain gentlemen to net and click-hook a large number of spawning grayling and anything else in the shape of trout, &c., out of Pickering and other becks in the neighbourhood, of which they and their gangs of Red Indians were not slow to avail themselves. They seem to be under the impression that the possession of a netting license to "take or kill trout," &c., is a sort of permit to poach other people's waters without taking the trouble to ask leave. On that score it is more than likely that a sudden and sharp awakening will take place one of these days. We always had a kind of impression that the fishery laws of this country were made to be observed by all rich and poor alike, and that they were made in the interests and for the common good of all; but it appears we have been mistaken—at least, as far as regards this district, for there is something very rotten in the state of Denmark.—NORTH-EAST.

Severn (Shrewsbury).

Anglers as well as fish were never more numerous round this town than they are this season. On Thursday, in the course of a walk by the river, I was thoroughly surprised to see the immense number of fish there were rising; some must have been chub of at least 3 lb. in weight. This wonderful improvement is traceable to the fact that the riparian owners, at the commencement of the season, published a notice prohibiting both net and night-line fishing within the borough, otherwise it is pretty certain that ten out of twelve of these would have been taken with the nets some time ago. The river at present is extremely low, the fish have not been taking for some weeks. I am afraid little or no sport will be had until after a fresh. The Secretary of State has sanctioned the by-laws recently passed by the Board of Conservators, which extends the close season for nets from September 1st to June 15th in each year; and raises the license for salmon nets to £5; trout nets, £1 12s. 6d.; and night lines, £3 for each line. These by-laws apply to the borough only.—SEVERN SALMON.

Severn and Teme (Worcester).

These streams are at summer level; in fact, I have not seen them so low for years. There are great quantities of fish, but it is of little use to angle except at morn and night, say from 4 a.m. until 8 a.m., then again at 6 p.m. until dusk. I have put this in practice, and the result has proved successful. First morning, 17 lb.; second morning, $6\frac{1}{2}$ lb.; first evening, $10\frac{1}{2}$ lb.; second evening 16 lb.; third evening, 7 lb. I also took the two prizes in the Worcester Club; first prize, $4\frac{1}{2}$ brace of trout, after 7 p.m.; second prize, one brace, $1\frac{1}{2}$ lb., after 7.30. Mr. R. James landed over 60 lb. of white fish in one day, the only rainy day this month. There have been some good takes of trout latterly; amongst the best takes I find some heavy trout for the Severn; Mr. W. Prosser's best fish, 4 lb., less 1 oz.; Mr. Hundley, of Holt, best fish, 5 lb. 4 oz.; Mr. Porter, one fish, $1\frac{1}{2}$ lb.; Mr. Cale's best $8\frac{1}{2}$ lb. The St. John Amateur Angling Club start to fish in their club waters upon the lower Teme at 1 p.m. this day (Thursday, the 26th inst.) There are five prizes to fish for; about 20 are expected to compete. I am now about starting to join them; will let you know the result next Thursday.—J. A. GRIFFIN.

P.S.—I took all those fish in the Lower Teme with a dark stone fly.

Teme (Ludlow).

The waters of the Teme and its tributaries are again getting very low; but, still, the streams have been well frequented during the week, and some very good fish have been caught, the flies used being the blue dun and the orle, the latter being this week a pretty sure killer. In the upper part of the Teme, in the Downton Castle waters, on Monday, two sons of Alderman Southern, of Shrewsbury, caught between them fifty splendid trout, fly-fishing. In Oakley Park quarter, a gentleman caught eight fine trout on Tuesday and seven more on Wednesday, each fish being little short of 1 lb. weight. I saw some nice trout on Monday caught down Steventon waters. A gentleman tried that way with some maggot, but, though he fished until dark, he did not succeed in hooking a single fish. A few fish have been caught below Ashford, but not large ones. There have been few members of the Leintwardine Club paying that locality a visit this week, though I hear a highly-fashionable party are expected next week, and great preparations are made for their arrival. Going up the Ony, beyond the railway station, we found the water remarkably low, so much so that in some places the bed of the stream might be crossed without wetting more than the soles of the boots. In the deep portions of the water some nice fish have been landed—one caught in a meadow near Bromfield weighed 1 lb. 15 oz., and was a fine fish. The Clun is also suffering from the drought; but on the 19th E. Meredith in the waters caught sixteen fine trout, with the orle, and on the next day, with the same bait, caught sixteen more and also four perch. Up the Ledwyche we saw a splendid lot of fish that had been caught with the blue dun, which was the only fly the fish would rise to on Monday. There have been several catches of good fish in the Corve, the waters of which are not in a very good state.—S. LUDLOW.

Teme (Tenbury).

This stream of this part still keeps very low and clear, but the fish rise well at the fly, and the best fishing fords of this part have been visited freely this week. There were a few sharp showers of rain had in this part at the beginning of this week, which made but little difference to the colour of the water, and only made the fish rise better at the fly. On Friday the fish were rising well at the fly. One gentleman fishing the water down from Easton Court with the orle and blue dun, took a splendid lot of fine trout, some scaling 1 lb. each. In the water below the town, with the blue dun, a gentleman landed a

splendid basket of nice trout. There was some good sport had a short distance from Tenbury with the fly. One gentleman took a beautiful basket of trout with the orle, and another nice lot was landed with the blue dun above the Teme bridge the same day. A gentleman on Monday tried the water near the town with the orle and blue dun, and landed a very nice basket of fine trout. On Tuesday the fishing below the bridge was very good. One gentleman took a very nice basket of fine fish, and another gentleman with the blue dun took a nice dish of fourteen fish. A few very good trout were taken near the town, early on Wednesday morning, with the blue dun and orle. Several very nice lots of fine fish have been taken in the Association waters this week with the fly. The Kyre and Rea are both in good angling order, but still keep low and clear. The fish are rising well in both streams, and several very nice lots have been taken. In the Rea on Monday, a gentleman took a splendid lot of fine trout with the blue dun, and in the Kyre, a very good dish of trout was taken above Tenbury with the fly on Tuesday. Some good fish have been taken in the Ledwyche this week.—WORCESTER.

Trent (Newark).

Rod and line fishing in this district seems to be a very unprofitable business just now. River dead low and very bright; and then the flannel weed—why it is a perfect nuisance to bottom fishermen. Your bait scarcely travels two yards before it is covered with it. A good sharp flood down the river to sweep it all away would be a perfect godsend. The river, too, is as full of insect life as ever it can stick, so I am afraid the fish will have none of our artificial food when there is such a superabundance of natural food for them. A few eels and flounders have been taken with worms; a few roach, dace, and bream with cadbaits; and the 22nd inst. two barbel were captured, with scratchings for bait, down the Collingham reach of the Trent. Meagre in the extreme must be the account of sport during the past week, and I am sadly afraid it will not mend much until we have the much-to-be-desired flood, or sharp fresh down the river.—THE TRENT OTTER.

Trent (Nottingham).

The river remains very low and clear, and not much sport can be expected until a rise comes and washes away the enormous quantities of "flannel" weed which cover the bottom of the streams. Barbel are backward in condition, but a few fish were killed on Monday and Tuesday with the worm, Mr. Mee, of this town, having one of $5\frac{1}{2}$ lb. In the Thrumpton fishery on Wednesday one of the subscribers got amongst the perch and took fifteen beauties in less than two hours. Mr. T. Wood has caught another salmon in the Lane End swim at Weston, and has followed up the capture with several takes of barbel. The Wellington Angling Society have secured the right of fishing on Mr. Sutton's land at Rolleston, and Mr. P. Whitt, of Radford, has become the lessee of Earl Carnarvon's water at Stoke. Mr. P. Wilson, Nottingham, has taken a large number of eels above Weston whilst ledgering. As soon as a rise occurs barbel anglers ought certainly to give the recognised swims a baiting.—THE MAN AT THE CLUBS.

Wharfe (Yorkshire).

Still no signs of rain, and the river getting into less compass every day. It is no use attempting to kill trout with the artificial fly, except for the last half hour before dark, and even then they are mightily wary and require the very smallest of midge flies to entice them. Mr. Fletcher, Commercial Street, Leeds, wishes me to inform anglers that he is going to keep the Marston fly rod in stock, and I heartily recommend the same to the notice of my readers. It is without doubt the best value that I have ever seen in the way of fly rods. You can fish with it a whole day without feeling the weight, it is so evenly balanced, and the play of it is perfect. The price is only 17s. 6d.; and as it includes a spare top, partition bag, and spear, I think that I am perfectly correct in terming it a marvel of cheapness.—FRANCIS M. WALBRAN.

Witham.

Angling has not been of the best on the Witham since the opening, and not much worth reporting has occurred at the riverside stations. Roach are reported coming on fairly, and some pretty good takes have been made under the circumstances. On the drains the fishermen have done better, and I have heard of some good tench and bream being got from the Cowbridge drain, near to Boston. Matthew Watson, of Sheffield, caught four off the Aqueduct, a brace of which scaled $4\frac{1}{2}$ lb. when weighed, and a friend of his fishing not far off got a rare lot of tench, most of them running to over $3\frac{1}{2}$ lb.—YELLOW BELLY.

Wye and Derwent.

The Drake season may now be considered as good as over for this year, and taking it on the whole, we have had a very bad one, especially on the Derwent, for there have been very few natural flies out even, while on the Dove there have been great quantities out. On last Saturday, the 21st inst. I went over to the Dove for a few hours' fishing; when we got to Dove Dale, we found the Dove very low indeed, and thunder clouds hanging all around us, and scarcely a fish on the move, but any quantity of drake out on the water. I only fished a very short time, and three rises were all I got. I managed to get a brace of trout, and I saw any quantity of both trout and grayling in the water. It is as well for gentlemen anglers to know that they can't fish either the Isaac Walton or the Peverel lengths without they stay a night in the hotels, no day tickets being allowed. I had to fish on the Boston fishery, and the charge is 2s. for your fishing ticket. Sport, both on the Wye and Derwent with the artificial flies has been as good as could be expected, and baskets up to eight brace per angler, are being daily made of an evening. Fish are now feeding on the little blacks and yellows, I opened four fish last night on purpose to ascertain what they were really feeding on, and found every fish glutted with the smallest black fly possible, the yellow dun, and the smallest insect blight that falls from the trees. The abundance of flies now upon the water makes fish very particular, and they require very careful fishing. A man to get a dish of fish with the artificial flies, must wade, working as much up stream, and across under the opposite bank as possible. Early morning and late in the evening are the best feeding times; the yellow duns, &c., then come sailing down, and the fish generally rise at them, and baskets up to 8 brace of an evening are being nightly killed. On the lower lengths of the Derwent, I advise anglers to have two or three collars on, with suitable flies on for evening fishing, so that there may be no delay at the feeding time, which is very short. The worm fishers on the Derwent have killed some good fish, both trout and grayling, during the week, mostly the last thing at night. There have been a few barbel and chub killed; the trollers have killed some good trout: both took the natural minnow and the artificial Derby trout killer. Weather very close and hot, thunder clouds hanging all around us.—G. J. EATON

SCOTCH NOTES.

TWEED AND TEVIOT.—During the past fortnight, the Tweed and Teviot, and their tributaries, have been at a very low ebb, in consequence of the long-continued drought; and, although the dryness and brightness of the weather have operated against the chances of anglers, a few good baskets have been taken in the mornings and earlier part of the day; the lure used with most effect being worms. Last week, Mr. T. Pringle, Kelso, had a splendid basket, which he caught on the Tweed. The following takes were also got on Saturday last on some of the smaller Border streams, the names of which are indicated within parentheses:—Thomas Owens, Morebattle (Bowmont), 8 lb. $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.; —Fletcher, Gatheshaw (Kale); Thomns Graig (Kale), 4 lb. $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.; John Currie (Kale), 1 lb. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.; James Cuthbert (Usway) one trout, weighing 11 oz.; and George Inglis (Kale), 3 lb. On Monday last, eight Kelso anglers caught $5\frac{1}{2}$ lb. of trout, their respective takes being as follows:—James Chisholm (Eden), 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb.; David Brown (Tweed), 10 lb.; John Cuthbert (Kale), 8 lb.; D. Maxwell (Tweed), 5 lb. 15 oz.; James Affleck, jun. (Teviot), 4 lb. 11 oz.; Archd. Hope (Tweed and Teviot), 4 lb. 1 oz.; A. M'Cutcheon (Teviot), 3 lb. 10 oz.; James Gibson (Tweed), 3 lb. 7 oz. It may be interesting to anglers to learn that while James Gibson was fishing with minnow in the Buck Bulls, on the Tweed, at Kelso, last week, a black-headed gull took his lure, and flew to a considerable height in the air, carrying out line along with it. After a brief effort to secure the bait, the gull let it go. Last week also, while a person was angling in Clearburn loch, in the district of Selkirk, he hooked a trout, and on landing it he was not a little surprised to find a bait hook in its mouth, and attached to the hook a long piece of twine. When opened out the string was found to measure ten yards, while the trout was only 4 oz. in weight. The same week, Mr. Charles Drummond, Beattock, captured with the rod, in the Annan, near Woodfoot Bridge, a common river trout, weighing $8\frac{1}{2}$ lb., and in fine condition. Salmon rod-fishing in this district is practically finished for the summer season, and the report of the net fishings at Berwick are to the effect that no improvement has taken place since last week. A good many trout are being caught with the nets, but salmon and grilse are very scarce. The prices at present are:—salmon, 1s. 5d., grilse, 1s. 3d., and trout, 1s. per lb. The weather to-day (Thursday) is mild and genial, with the wind from the south, and no appearance of rain, which is much wanted to clear the bottom of the rivers.

THE TAY.—During the past week the river has been extremely low, and the takes have consequently been somewhat light. One gentleman, however, secured a fine basket, which weighed fully seven pounds, and another got over five pounds. Several baskets of lesser weight were taken varying from $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. to 4 lbs. On Saturday, Mr. Douglas of Killiechassie's keeper caught two salmon, weighing 15 lb. and 10 lb. respectively. The Loch-na-craig was fished last week by gentlemen from the Breadalbane Arms Hotel, Aberfeldy, and very good baskets were obtained. The Killin Angling Club held their second competition for the season on Loch Tay, on Monday. The club had seven boats engaged, with fourteen competitors. The following are the prize winners: First, Mr. John Marriot, $7\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.; second, Donald McKerchar, $6\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.; third, Duncan Campbell, $5\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. The recent rains have put the Isla, a tributary of the Tay, into excellent ply, and anglers are getting heavy baskets. The river is literally swarming with fish, and any lure is deadly, so freely do the trout bite.

THE TUMMEL.—Mr. G. Scott was out on the Tummel on Wednesday morning, and procured an excellent basket of 17 trout, the heaviest one of which weighed about $1\frac{1}{2}$ lb. The Tummel is yielding better this season than for some time past. On Loch Tummel the weather on Saturday was warm and sultry, and a south-easterly breeze prevailed. Trout were taking fairly well. Mr. Boase, Dundee, from Loch Tummel Hotel, fished the Loch, and got four trout. One weighed 2 lb., another $1\frac{1}{2}$ lb., and two 1 lb. each. Fishing on Loch Erich last week, Dr. Gray, Glasgow, had in two days 22 lb. of trout. In the same period, Mr. Acman, Bridge of Allan, had 28 lb. of trout. On Monday Mr. Paul had 10 lb., and Mr. Stewart 6 lb. of trout.

LOCH LAGGAN.—On this loch on Tuesday, Mr. Goetz, Leith, and Mr. Scotland, Glasgow, killed 16 lb. of trout in a few hours. Messrs. McGregor and Hardie, Leith, killed 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. of trout. Mr. McGregor, Edinburgh, killed a salmo ferox, $3\frac{1}{2}$ lb. weight; on Wednesday, Mr. Goetz, Leith, killed 2 salmo ferox, both in splendid condition, and weighing $8\frac{1}{2}$ and $3\frac{1}{2}$ lb. respectively. On Thursday the same gentleman killed two salmo ferox, weighing $3\frac{1}{2}$ and $3\frac{1}{2}$ lb. respectively. Mr. Hardie, Leith, killed a few trout with the fly, the heaviest one of which weighed 2 lb. Colonel McPherson, of Cuny, fished Loch Laggan on Monday, and had a basket of 19 lb. of trout. Mr. Van Gruisen, of Liverpool, staying at Loch Laggan Hotel, has during the last fortnight enjoyed excellent sport, having killed over three hundred good trout, mostly caught from the shore. On Tuesday Mr. Hardie and party, Leith, fished the loch, and captured in an hour and a half's fishing over 20 lb. of fine trout, when they were forced to stop fishing, owing to a violent gale of wind.

LOCH RANNOCH.—Parties staying at the Macdonald Arms Hotel have been lately having fair sport. Mr. Menzies and Mr. Ridley, Newcastle-on-Tyne, had salmo ferox of 7 lb., and a number of other trout on Monday last; and on Tuesday, Mr. C. J. Potter, Newcastle, and Mr. Menzies, Leith, had a $2\frac{1}{2}$ lb. trout and a fair basket of others. Messrs. Hardie, Edinburgh, have also had good sport. They had on a ferox, which, however, slipped off the gaff and escaped, the weight of which was estimated at 25 lb. The Rev. Mr. Hooper, Brighton, has had fair sport in the river. On Tuesday Mr. Hugh Mitchell, Pitlochry, got two dozen good trout in the lake in a few hours.

LOCH AWE.—Mr. Horrocks, fishing from Taychreggan Hotel, killed a salmo ferox of 5 lb. and a nice basket of smaller trout, one of which weighed $1\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Fishing the Hill Lochs during the last fortnight, Mr. Horrocks has had heavy baskets, ranging from three dozen to seven dozen trout a day, a number weighing about $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. each. Sheriff Champion, Messrs. Moscrop, Knowles, Smith, Mathison, Colquhoun, and Blackstone all fished Loch Awe from the Taychreggan Hotel last week, and made fair baskets. The best basket of the week fell to Mr. Smith—twelve trout, 8 lb. The following are the takes of parties fishing from the Taychreggan Hotel on Saturday:—Messrs. Thomson and Hardinge, thirty six trout; Mr. and Mrs. Binge (Loch Nant), thirty-eight trout; Mr. Randell (Loch Wren), twelve trout. Anglers from the Port Lochan Hotel had very good sport last week. On Saturday, Messrs. Webster had two dozen nice trout in Loch Awe. On the same day Major Echaly had also a couple of dozen of very fine trout, averaging $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. each. Gentlemen fished from the same hotel boats on Loch Frog, Loch Nant, Loch Blood, and Loch Avich, and had baskets of from two to five dozen trout. All these lochs at this season of the year afford excellent sport. The following baskets were made by gentlemen fishing from the Taychreggan hotel on Monday:—Messrs. Thompson and Hardinge, twenty-two trout; Mr. Randell, on Loch Nant, twenty-four trout; Mr. Binge, on Loch Wren, thirty trout. The following were the baskets obtained by gentlemen fishing from the same hotel on Tuesday:—Messrs. Thomson and

Hardinge (Loch Awe) twenty-six trout; Messrs. Randall and Hoole (Loch Avich) sixty trout; Messrs. Binge and Parsons (Loch Wren) forty trout. On Wednesday Mr. Thompson, Cheltenham, was out from Loch Awe hotel, and killed a salmon weighing 13 lb.—J. M.

THE AWE.—The following are the captures of the Tynault Hotel section of the river, since Monday, 16th inst: On 16th Mr. White had a salmon of 14 lb.; on 17th, Mr. Williams had one of 17 lb., and Mr. Casson had one of 19 lb.; on 18th, Mr. Casson one grilse, 6 lb. On the 20th, the same gentleman had a salmon of 21 lb, and on the 21st, he had a salmon of 18 lb., and a grilse of 8 lb.

CLUB REPORTS.

(Continued from page 305.)

RODNEY PISCATORIALS.

The members of this society competed at Taplow on the 22nd, and the following was the result:—Mr. G. Dodd, with roach and dace, won a prize, given by Mr. G. Hockley; Mr. Grant, with roach, won Mr. R. Smith's ros. 6d; Mr. Hotham took the third with perch; and Mr. R. Chantry the 4th with roach. Messrs. Grant, jun., Liversage, Pyne, Fridel, and R. Smith also had fish. The South London United visit will be paid to this society on July 7th. All who can make it convenient to come will be heartily welcomed by—
PIXIE.

SOUTH LONDON UNITED.

The committee of the above met on the 23rd for the purpose of deciding the prizes to be competed for on the 29th at Egham. Fifty-eight tickets had been sold, the income from which, together with prizes offered from private parties, enabled the committee to offer the following prizes for competition:—1st, £1 6s. 6d.; 2nd, 15s.; 3rd, 10s.; 4th, 7s. 6d.; 5th, 5s.; 6th, 3s. Mr. Smith, of the South Eastern, will also give to the winner of the 1st prize a pair of fret cut brackets. Messrs. Allen and Gafney are appointed to peg out swims. Competitors start from Waterloo by the 8.25, Vauxhall 8.30, or Clapham Junction later, to Staines, by Mr. Field's party—tickets, 2s. return. On reaching the Swan, on the Egham side of the river, members will draw their numbers and start to their swims at once, and commence fishing. Seven o'clock is the time appointed to leave off. Fish to be weighed at the Swan Hotel. Return train, 8.45 from Staines.—PIXIE.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ANGLING SOCIETY.

The first annual contest in connection with the above society took place on the afternoon of Saturday, June 21st, when about thirty-two members took part in the competition. The uncertainty which anglers are accustomed to was rather predominant, as some of our best anglers did little or nothing; in fact, the whole catch was very much below expectation. There were fifteen prizes offered, which were taken as follows:—1st. Mr. Percy Ellis, 6 lb. 11 oz.; 2nd. Mr. Geo. Bennett, 4 lb. 8 oz.; 3rd. Mr. A. Bailey, 4 lb. 4 oz.; 4th. Mr. William Evans, 4 lb. 3 oz.; 5th. Mr. J. Fenn, 3 lb. 6 oz.; 6th. Mr. M. Hollinson, 3 lb. 1½ oz.; 7th. Mr. J. Hollins, 2 lb. 14 oz.; 8th. Mr. W. R. Taylor, 2 lb. 13½ oz.; 9th. Mr. Wm. Lea, 2 lb. 11 oz.; 10th. Mr. T. Potts, 2 lb. 5 oz.; 11th. Mr. Jesse Stevenson, 2 lb. 4½ oz.; 12th. Mr. J. Bickerton, 2 lb. 3½ oz.; 13th. Mr. Wm. Hassall, 2 lb. 2 oz.; 14th. Mr. J. Leese, 1 lb. 15½ oz.; and, for the 15th prize, Messrs. W. Sweetnam, J. Morgan, and R. Wallace tied, with 1 lb. 14½ oz. each. There were also four prizes offered for specimen fish, not to be less than 1 lb.; three of these were won as follows:—Tench, Mr. J. Fenn, 2 lb. 6 oz.; bream, Mr. A. Bailey, 1 lb. 14 oz.; "eel, Mr. J. Stevenson, 1 lb. 6 oz. After the weighing in, which took place on the waters embankment, the party soon started for home, after spending a pleasant afternoon.—J. HOLLINS, hon. sec.

THE GRANGE ANGLING SOCIETY.

The second annual dinner of the above society was held at the Southwark Park Tavern, Southwark Park Road, on Tuesday, the 17th inst., when there were present fifty-seven members and friends. Mr. Hosken, the president, occupied the chair, and Mr. Hunt, the treasurer, the vice-chair. Among those present were Messrs. F. Ebsworth, G. Mitcham, J. Varney, J. Dumphreys, Bedding, J. Willett, G. Quick, Wilson, G. Evans, and E. Frisby. After the usual loyal toast had been given and duly honoured, the chairman gave the toast of the evening, "The Grange Angling Society," and coupled the name of Mr. Hunt with the toast, who, in responding, stated the society was built upon a strong and firm foundation. Like a good ship, it was well built, successfully launched, officered, and manned, and auspiciously started. It had avoided the shoals and quicksands, and, at the close of its first annual voyage, was safely harboured, refitted, and prepared for its second cruise. During the second year its members had increased from twenty to six y, and was commencing the third year with sixty-one members, and still there was every prospect of increased success. The next toast submitted was that of "The President, Vice-Presidents, and Treasurer," which was drank enthusiastically and acknowledged. The chairman then proceeded to distribute the prizes to the successful competitors, and, in so doing, made some most appropriate remarks. The prize-winners were:—Messrs. J. Jones, J. H. Rich, W. Rich, W. Kayes, H. Cooper, Fowler, Wand, Gibbons, and E. Cooper. This having completed the prize list, prizes for 1884-5 were promised by the following gentlemen:—Messrs. Hosken, Hockley, G. Gibbons, J. H. and W. Rich, S. and J. Jones, Hunt, and Creasy. "The Committee" formed the subject of the next toast. Mr. Hosken said Mr. Rich, together with Mr. Gibbons, were two of the founders of the society, and were mainly instrumental in securing its success. Mr. J. H. Rich having responded on behalf of the committee, the toast, "The Secretary," was then proposed, and the chairman said they had reached one of the most important items of the programme. He had to present the secretary, Mr. Kayes, with a handsome illuminated testimonial on vellum, also a writing cabinet in recognition of his hard work and faithful service. He hoped their friend would long live to enjoy these gifts—one to gratify his vision, and the other to prove useful to him. May he live long to remember those who thus desire to reward his services, and to encourage others to work for their fellow-men. The chairman then asked Mr. Croker to read the testimonial, which was read as follows:—"This testimonial, together with a writing cabinet, was presented to Mr. William Kayes, Honorary Secretary of the Grange Angling Society, by the undermentioned members and friends, as an acknowledgment of his untiring efforts to bring the society to its present financial and numerical success, and also in recognition of his never-failing courtesy and willingness to oblige all those with whom his office brought him in contact, and we trust that Providence will

long spare so useful a member of society. Walter Richard Hosken (chairman), John Varney (treasurer); Committee, G. W. Gibbons, W. Hunt, J. H. Rich, J. Haigh, W. W. Leverett, W. J. Rich. (Then followed the names of the subscribers.)

"F. W. CROKER,

"Hon. sec. to the Testimonial Committee, 17th June, 1884."

Mr. Kayes having acknowledged the gifts, the remaining part of the toast list was completed, several excellent songs being sung by Messrs. Creasy, J. H. Rich, J. Jones, J. Dumphreys, M. Leverett, Hunt, F. Croker, Cox, Tagg, and Aldous. During the course of the evening Mr. G. Gibbons, jun., recited "In the Signal Box" and "The Jockey." Both pieces were well rendered, and were greatly applauded.

THE PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

The usual weekly meeting of the society took place on Monday evening last, at Ashley's Hotel, Covent Garden. There was a good attendance of members, amongst those present being Rev. G. Sumner, Messrs. Meyer, Gillatt, Jesse, Gray, Brown, Patterson, Goodger, Booker, Levy, Fennings, Huggett, Lemann, Foreman, Lander, hon. sec., Sachs, Hill, Bennett, Russell, Dr. Brunton, &c. Mr. Jesse was unanimously voted to the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The hon. sec. read a circular notice from the Central Association, calling the attention of angling societies, viz.—"That the various railways have now granted full privileges to this association, and that their tickets are now recognised at all railway stations to which privileges apply; and, further, that the Central Association does not entertain the amalgamation proposals, and that Mr. Medcalle, of the Amicable Brothers, has accepted the office of vice-president of this association." Dr. Brunton was pleased to hear the Central Association had gained all the concessions. For the very honest and straightforward manner in which this association had lately acted *re* amalgamation, he hoped those members of the Piscatorial Society who used privilege tickets would give the same their hearty support. Mr. Wheelton also spoke warmly in its favour. However, he had no doubt amalgamation, if properly brought about, would be a great boon to anglers generally. Mr. Lemann has been fishing at Bray. Thirteen barbel, four chub, and two perch. None of these fish are eligible to be weighed in here before July 1st, they were, therefore, returned to the river. He also took one trout, undersized; duly returned. Dr. Brunton, at Hertford, one chub, 2½ lb., returned; one brace small trout. Also in the Colne: sport moderate. Mr. Huggett has been fishing at Walton, trying the bream. He showed two, the result of a day's fishing, and expressed an opinion that no large takes would be made until a good freshet had taken place in the river, which, at the present time, was stale, especially at the sides out of the stream. Mr. Wheelton made some remarks *re* Barbel Fishing in the Thames and Trent, and recommended that our Thames fishermen should take a lesson from those of the Trent, who fished bright waters with a float, while the Trent fishermen might well copy the Thames men, and fish in thick water with a ledger. A discussion next took place as to the proper and best method of ground baiting for barbel, in which Messrs. Lemann, Pattison, and Wheeler took part. The librarian requested members to return all books belonging to the library before our next weekly meeting. The "Continued Success of the Piscatorial Society" and the "Health of the Chairman" having been duly proposed and responded to, brought the business of the meeting to a close.—T. H.

UNITED BROTHERS, DEPTFORD.

Several of the members of the above society were out on the 22nd, but had rather poor sport. Mr. Lawes, some nice bream from Pulborough; Mr. J. Payne, bream from Amberley; Mr. J. Currans, bream from Amberley; G. Belton, bream and dace from Pulborough; H. Tyler, roach and dace from Pulborough; F. Watts, roach from Pulborough.—H. T.

WALTONIANS.

On the 18th, Mr. Thomas Watkins had a splendid show of roach (11 lb. 12 oz.) and dace (4 lb. 8 oz.).

IMPORTANT CONVICTION.

At the Manchester City Police Court on June 25, John Whitehead, wholesale and retail fishmonger, at Smithfield Market, was fined 40s. and £3 3s. as costs, for exposing for sale on the 4th of June a quantity of pike, in contravention of the Freshwater Fisheries Act, 1878, which makes the period between March 15th and June 15th a close season for fresh water fish. This important prosecution was instituted by the Manchester District Amalgamated Anglers' Association.

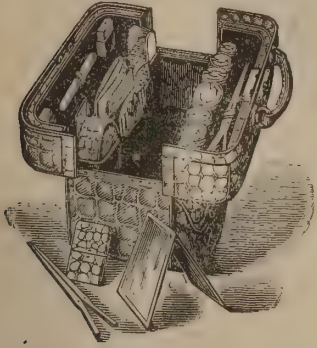
LARGE TROUT IN THE ANNAN.—On Tuesday last, Mr. Charles Drummond, Beattock, landed, near Woodfoot Bridge, from the Annan, a yellow trout weighing 8½ lb. This fish was exhibited at Beattock Station and much admired, being the largest yellow trout recorded as taken in the Upper Annan, and being in splendid condition. It was landed after an hour and a quarter's play.

THAMES FISHERY CONVICTION.—William Leigh, of Lime Grove, New Malden, was summoned before the Kingston Borough Bench on Wednesday last for taking fish during the close season, and also for taking unsizeable fish.—Mr. W. H. Brougham prosecuted on behalf of the Thames Angling Preservation Society, and the cases were proved by head river-keeper Alfred Thompson.—The Bench fined the defendant in each case 15s., and 10s. costs.

DESTRUCTION OF FISH IN THE RIBBLE.—During the long drought of several weeks, a large quantity of sediment and refuse accumulated on the banks of the Ribble, both above and below Preston. On the 22nd inst., there was a high tide (registered at 27 feet), and this scoured the bed of the river and filled the water with poisonous filth. The result was seen when the tide receded, in the thousands of dead and dying eels and fish of all kinds that lined the banks of the stream, choked by the mud. Scores of boys took home large quantities of them, and a flock of seagulls had a very good time.—*Liverpool Mercury.*

GEORGE JAMES EATON, of Starkholmes, Matlock-Bath, Derbyshire, respectfully invites Noblemen and Gentlemen to try his standard FLIES for the present season. No flies sent or made up but what he himself has proved sure killers. A trial is all that is required, from gentlemen who can fish, to prove whether they may be genuine or not. Patronised by some of the best fishermen of the day. All flies dressed on the best Kendal hooks. Prices: Point Flies, 2s. 6d. per Dozen; Dropper Flies, 2s. per Dozen. Orders punctually attended to.—(ADVT.)

Thornhill's Ten-Guinea Silver-Fitted Ladies' Travelling Dressing Bag. (No. 68.)
74-inch Best Polished Morocco Patent Wide-opening Travelling Dressing Bag, with one Outside Pocket, Stitched Handle, with Gilt Rings and Plates, Gilt Double action Registered Lock, and Thornhill's Improved Patent Stop-hinges; Bag lined with rich Moiré Antique Silk, with Thornhill's Improved Indestructible Pockets.



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Set of plain cut Glass Fittings, with richly Engraved HALL MARKED SOLID SILVER STERLING Tops, consisting of—
Oval Soap.
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Ivory Hair Brush, in case.
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Ditto Glove Stretchers.
Ditto Paper Knife.
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Instrument Board, fitted with pair Nail Scissors, Ivory Nail Trimmer, Four Ivory-handle Instruments, and a pair of Tweezers.

PRICE 10 GUINEAS.

If the Bag is in Russia Leather..... 11 Gs.
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The Silver Tops may be richly gilt for 21s. extra.

ENGRAVING.—Engraving Monogram of Two or Three Letters on the Silver Fittings, Ivory Brushes, Glove Stretchers, Paper Knife, and Four Instruments, and stamping initials in Gold on the Bag, 42s. Complete, or only Engraving the Seven Silver Fittings, and Stamping the Bag, 21s.
W. THORNHILL & CO., TO THE QUEEN AND ROYAL FAMILY, 144 & 145, NEW BOND STREET, LONDON.
ESTABLISHED 1734. TELEPHONE NO. 3501.

ISLAND OF HERM.

The beautiful Island of Herm, between Guernsey and Sark, in the English Channel. A perfectly unique purchase for a nobleman, yachtsman, gentleman, or professional or business man seeking thorough rest and recreation in a charming climate at the sea-side, with a series of attractions which could not be matched elsewhere within the same compass, and within 10 or 11 hours of London. The island is a mile and a half long, by three quarters of a mile broad, and contains 460 statute acres, including 100 acres of highly fertile arable and pasture land, with fine deep alluvial soil, forming by far the largest farm in one occupation in the Channel Islands. The remainder of the land has a picturesque broken surface, clad with gorse and cover, and there are some rich feeding lands. Pheasants, partridges, and wild geese, and rabbits abound. The higher portions attain an altitude of upwards of 284 ft. above sea level, and are crowned by several cromlechs, "The Old Mill of Herm," a noted nautical mark, and the ancient Franciscan chapel. At the western side of the island an excellent harbour, also landing steps accessible at all times of the tide; elsewhere are lofty and wild cliffs, gorges, romantic pinnacles of rock, and broken bits of wild rock scenery, which delight the eye of an artist, and form the natural home of the cormorant, gannet, guillemot, razor bill, curlew, of innumerable gulls, and other sea birds. The Creux, one of the sights of the Channel Islands, a deep, funnel-shaped depression near the shore, communicating at its base with the sea by a natural archway, and the renowned shell beach of Herm an inexhaustible object of interest to conchologists. The entire island is in hand, and available for possession. A good family house, stabling, and gardens, in a well chosen and picturesque position in the centre of the island, there are several smaller houses and cottages and a large hotel, which until lately realised £80 a year, and could be re-let. The lands are well adapted for the growth of fruit and the high-priced early potatoes and vegetables which are daily so extensively exported from the neighbouring Islands of Guernsey and Jersey. The land could be farmed to great profit, or let at high rents. Exceedingly heavy crops of grapes, which can be exported at full prices, are obtained from the extensive vineyards, and there are other sources of income, irrespective of the mineral wealth, which is more particularly referred to in the following advertisement. The property is likely to prove a good and remunerative investment for capital, besides offering a great scope for residential enjoyment. There are several springs of fine water on the island. The property is held on lease from the Crown (by order in Council of his Majesty George II.), perpetually renewable every 21 years on payment of a nominal fine of £42 and at a rent of £14 per annum, and is free from any rates, taxes, and Government dues of every kind. The population is 37. There is good fishing round the island, and lobsters and crabs are abundant.

MESSRS. DEBENHAM, TEWSON, FARMER and BRIDGEWATER will SELL the above valuable and very attractive PROPERTY, at the Mart, on Tuesday, July 29th, at 2 o'clock (unless an acceptable offer be made by private contract). Mr. Simmonds, the resident manager, will, with his boat, meet any intending purchaser at St. Peter's Port, Guernsey, by appointment. Particulars, plans, and views (now ready) of Messrs. Arnold and Co., Solicitors, 60, Carey Street, W.C., and of the Auctioneers, 80, Cheapside.

To Road Contractors and Granite Merchants.
MESSRS. DEBENHAM, TEWSON, FARMER, and BRIDGEWATER direct special attention to the SALE of the ISLAND of HERM, referred to in the preceding advertisement. There are Four important Quarries of Granite, and the necessary dwelling houses for the overseer and workpeople. The quarries have not been worked during the proprietorship of the present owners of the island, but looking to the exceedingly large and annually increasing export of Guernsey granite, for which granite a very full price is obtained, and the advantages that Herm possesses by reason of its free harbour, there is not a doubt that operations at these quarries could be carried out advantageously. The stone from Herm was used for the formation of the causeway to the East and West India Docks, for the former paving in Cheapside, and for the formation of the steps of the Duke of York's Column (the latter built about 60 years since, and showing no signs of wear).

To Cement Merchants.
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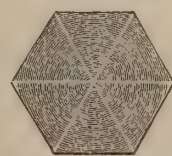
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See also notices in the FISHING GAZETTE for Dec. 17, 1883; June 28, 1884; July 1, 1884; and March 8th, 1884.

LINES.—Gut, 3 yards, 3d., 4d., and 6d. each, FISHING GAZETTE Gossamer gut, Tapered, 8d. each; Salmon, 3 yards, 8d. to 1s. 9d., twisted do., 1s. 6d. each; Hair, 3 yards, 3d. and 4d.; Nottingham silk twist, 10 yards, 3d., stout, 4d. Best 8-plait silk line, 25 yards, 1s., 1s. 3d., and 1s. 6d.; prepared ditto, 20 yards, 1s., stout, 1d. per yard; good gut, 12in., 1s. per hank, about 100 strips; 14in. 1s. 6d.; Gossamer gut, 12in. 3s. 6d.; 14in. 4s. 6d.

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" " LEVENENSIS do. " do.

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ANGLING FOR SALMON.

BY GEO. M. KELSON.

(Illustrated.)

NOW that the season of festivity and indigestion is closing, and the inciting influence of the gong's ever-searching sound is stealing its way into the dormitory of the salmon fisherman, it seems a fitting opportunity to commence this series of illustrated articles entrusted to my humble powers by the Editor of the FISHING GAZETTE.

In framing the more pertinent remarks from facts derived from personal experience, it may not be always easy to avoid an appearance of egotism, though I will endeavour to offend as little in this respect as is compatible with the interesting work before me.

Fishing in all its serious occupation on the one side, and all its delights on the other, is one of our most ancient industries, and is cultivated alike by civilised and uncivilised nations: though old, surely it is endowed with immortal youth to accompany generation after generation from the cradle to the grave, reviving a host of pleasant recollections to its flood of faithful followers.

Perhaps no happier man exists in her Majesty's dominions than the veteran salmon angler, ever full of hope and consolation, his brain clear and active, reposing in the calm, unconscious air of superiority—ridiculously riling to rivals—and yet conscious that health and strength need never be impaired or endangered by any undue extravagance of energy. Handling his rod in masterly style, this fisherman enters into the sport as if he never had, and never could have, any other interest in life. How favourably he contrasts with the tyro, usually so brisk and profligate in his fuss and misdirected energy, the inevitable end of which is disgust, desperation, defeat, and disappointment.

Salmon, like their captors, vary in temperament; they are shy, bold, volatile, determined, and sometimes sulky. Our rivers are seldom seen to so great an advantage as when the fish are "sporting"; these acrobatic performances—presumably constitutional recreations—divert them from all business transactions, and therefore the sight is a perfect abomination to us as anglers.

Salmon love shade and shelter, and, strange as it may appear, they select for their resting-places during their fresh water voyage, localities most charming to the eye. Who shall say that their sense of beauty is not as keen as our own? Their world, like ours, has its troubles and contains many hopes and delusions, joys and snares. Is there not some ground for asserting that they anticipate this—their season of matrimony, their season also of "good cheer"!

Science is rapidly stepping in to assist nature, and our ideal salmon pool may well be described as affording an attraction alike to fisherman and sentimentalist, with its surrounding rocks, feathering trees and hanging banks, its smooth sward of turf near the impetuous stream—just the very place for a water nymph, discreetly shut out from the gaze of man.

The number of fish which some of these pools hold is almost incredible—salmon, eels, &c., and frequently trout. The two former are recognised associates. They affect both the sea and freshwater with this singular difference: the salmon approaches the fresh water to spawn, the eel prefers the salt; the salmon, as a rule, returns annually, which the eel is supposed never to do; the salmon fry descend to the sea in the spring, the eel fry ascend in the autumn; salmon are caught as they come up, the majority of eels as they go down; the salmon, we are told, does not travel by night, neither do eels by day.

If the student be wise he will never be weary in unravelling the mysteries of salmon-fishing—an expression not altogether inappropriate, our "regular otters" being always mysterious, and seldom volunteering advice or offering a wrinkle.

We all know how novices love to prate; indeed, those possessing the least knowledge generally indulge in lengthened discourses. Apt to overrate their abilities, these "reviewers" habitually pick to pieces others of perhaps superior knowledge. They must find some fault as a sort of voucher for their own boasted discernment.

The experienced, confident and ever on the alert, go to work with coolness and indomitable will; their sport, a business to which they bring their best powers of mind and body; earnest hardworkers, rewarded by as deep delight and pride as ever attended the complicated brain labours of the diplomatist or city millionaire. They know there is no necessity for working to the point of exhaustion, or even harder than is absolutely consistent with comfort.

Watch them, and note how utterly absent they appear from the worries of the outer world, with its losses, crosses, and terrible vexations, its hullabaloo's that sour the temper, and bring on that

most unpoetic ailment, the gout. Watch them quietly proceeding, solemnly pondering a question of pleasing importance with a profound expression of devotion, till you see the line tighten—the rod arched by that welcomed tug which elevates the pulse, and then hear them talk, not to you, but to the fish, who understands no more than we the chatter of starlings.

Glancing at another phase of the subject, there is no cast in which opinions vary so much as the one I am about to describe—a judgment which, I believe, will be very generally endorsed.

Students of the switch cast are always liable to cross-examination, a dreary social torture, an idle ceremony merely for the amusement of their companions, invariably ending in chaff combined only with chagrin. These young sportsmen are sure to bite when fed with interrogatories, and it is not only natural but inevitable that they trip into the trap. The switch is as perplexing to the uninitiated angler as to the unsurgical mind are the intricacies and delicate mechanism of the human mind with all its complicated gear. The "spey" brother to this switch (which, like "old china" of the present day, is remarkable for its youth) has its quota of ardent admirers. In many districts it is in great favour; indeed, survives its reputation with dogged determination. Bias may be wholly unconscious, yet exercise a most disturbing effect upon the judgment.

It was a "happy thought" of the Editor to propose these illustrations, which will probably awaken interest and curiosity among some of those to whom the work is not familiar.

I venture to hope this particular method of casting may be what the sportsman requires and all that he could wish for; indeed, in our "leading ranks" it boasts a train of worshippers, and reigns with unchallenged supremacy. It was this switch that was one of the interesting features during the experiments at the late Fisheries Exhibition. The attention of the public was keenly aroused and persistently sustained through those demonstrations. It seems strange that this cast—so important to anglers—should have remained so long in comparative obscurity.

In accompanying the present illustrations with instructions, I confidently promise the connoisseur or recruit endowed with ordinary application that he may realise at once how some treatises have hitherto been written with the unfortunate result of complicating and confusing. Such force is there in the offspring of the imagination, when that faculty is moved by the intense vitality of genius, that any well-worded, cleverly-written sporting contribution finds a ready sale, however unauthentic its history or its stories may be. Books and anecdotes are all very well, with their incidents of fishing; there is no end to the pictures imagination paints—indeed, it is easy enough to catch fish *on paper*, and they generally give one "magnificent sport."

It is a significant fact that there has been an absence of definite and trustworthy directions in print relative to this cast.

Men try to copy one another, instead of making personal experiments and examinations; truly, we all have much to learn in the study of fish and fishing.

There are several different dodges in switching. One river asserts this, another that, and a third something else; each declares theirs is correct and strictly in accordance "with approved authorities." Surely, this reasoning appears remarkably suggestive of attempting to describe the habits and customs of mankind with only a knowledge of those of one nation.

The old fandangled implements and prejudices that have so long held man's judgment are fast melting away. Theory inspires misgivings, and in this practical age men want facts, not fancies. Yet no suggestions are perhaps more powerful than those which spring from practical and lengthened experience.

To my readers who have never run a risk of "hooking their noses" I strongly recommend a prefatory practice of the "Esk switch," effected in one motion without the turn. It is an excellent stepping-stone and a useful preliminary to this advanced method which the angler should be patient to investigate. He must discard and condemn unsound theories that were the delight of his early speculations, and he must be prepared with perseverance, adhering to rules under which alone it can be accomplished. If there is any real difficulty in these casts it may be found in this; certainly some mechanical ingenuity is requisite, but be it remembered that all difficulties with the true fisherman dissolve before his cheerful spirit like snowdrifts before the sun.

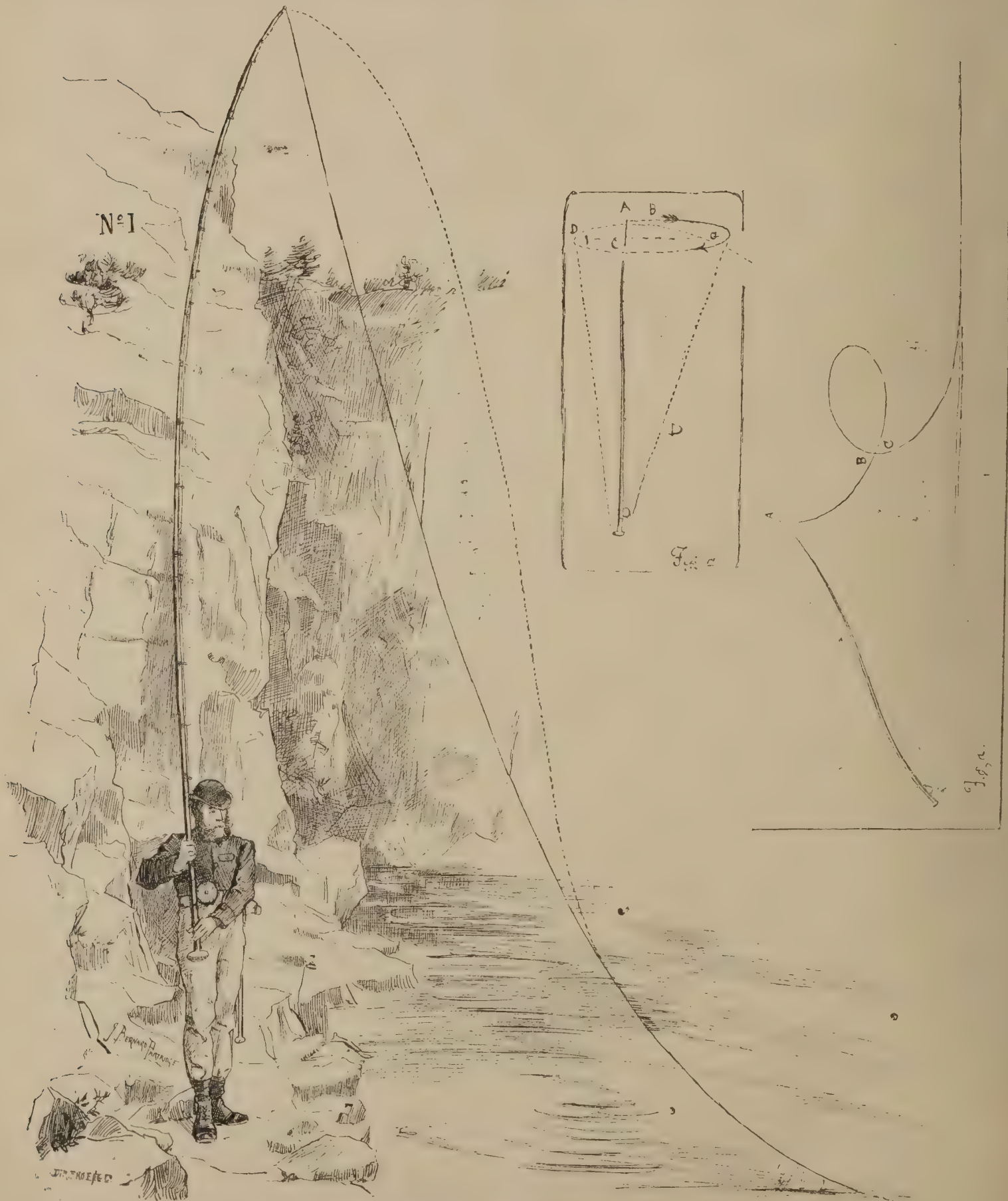
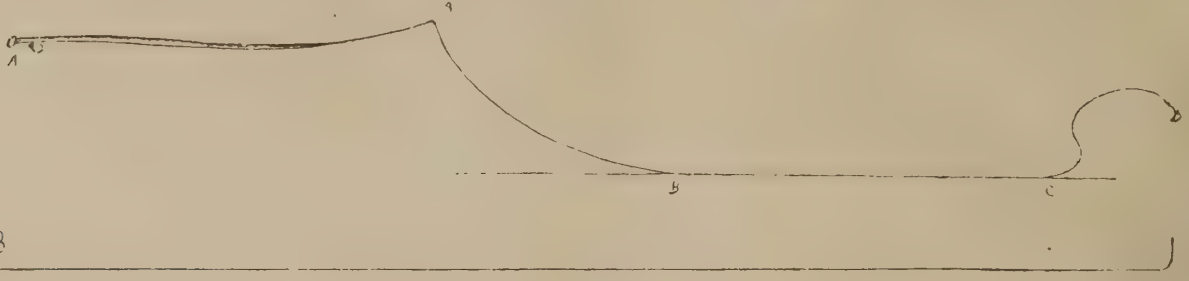
Now to business, as solicitors say in serving a writ on a relative. Then here I beg to submit my brief.

RULES FOR MAKING THE "SWITCH" CAST AND "PETERING."

"Elevate the rod, steadily at first (No. 1), but with a rapidly-increasing movement (2); by this the fly will be drawn to the surface, with the line bellying inwards. Now twitch the point of the rod forward (3) by a sharp, short action of the upper wrist, causing the line to bow in an opposite direction, and then, with a bold, elliptical sweep (4) from right, overhead, to left, proceed to make the thrash or downcast (5).

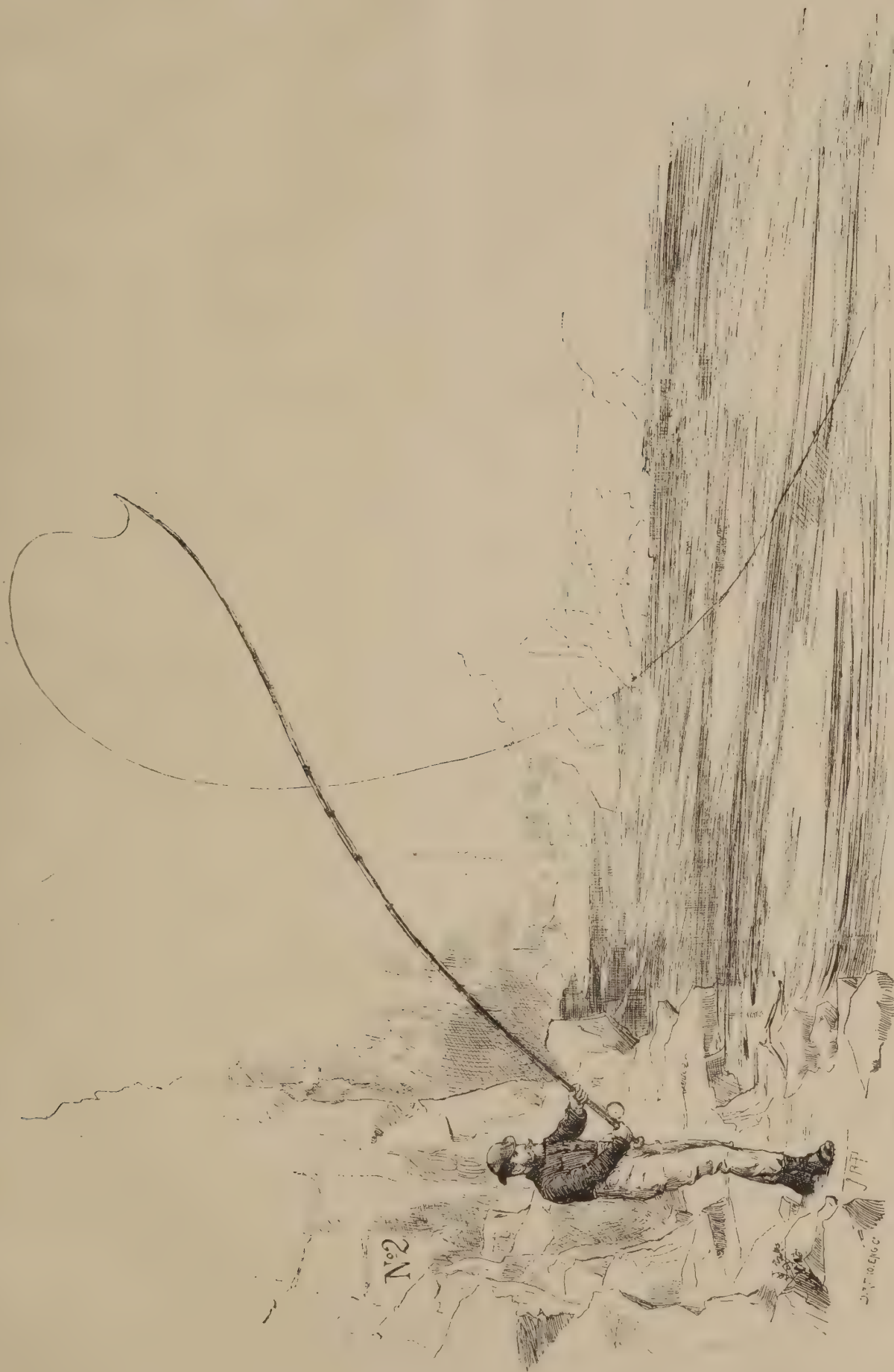
"Effect this vigorously and give additional impetus to the line by

"ANGLING FOR SALMON." BY GEO. M. KELSON.



THE "SWITCH" CAST ("PETER"). No. 1. (See FISHING GAZETTE, Jan. 19, 1884.)

"ANGLING FOR SALMON." BY GEO. M. KELSON.



THE "SWITCH" CAST ("PETER"). No. 2. (See FISHING GAZETTE, Jan. 19, 1884.)

forcing the arms forward to their full extent as the rod reaches a horizontal position, when it must be suddenly checked by a firm grasp. The line is then left to work its own success or failure."

In preface to an endeavour to avert ambiguity by an analysis of each preceding item, it is desirable to say that, should the angler find his pool inconveniently "congested," i.e., choked, by overhanging banks, trees, or rocks, he must start operations by paying out line—a difficulty, if not an impossibility, if any back eddy when starting it should terminate in a whirling undercurrent. In dealing with this contingency the rod should be laid down parallel with the stream, with sufficient line coiled and placed under the uppermost joint, the rod then being gently raised, and the line swished out horizontally. But if the angler is wading, the coils under these circumstances must be handled, and let fall simultaneously with the swish of the rod.

With regard, now, to the primary movement in the "brief." It is superfluous to do more than to inform the reader that the top joint of the rod in this action would be more likely to maintain its pliability, and could never be snapped if Rule 1 were closely adhered to.

(2) "A rapidly-increasing movement" should be executed with enough power to ensure the "bellying inwards" of the line by force of velocity (*vide* No. 1 illustration).

The secret is unearthed in 3-4, and the trump cards exposed.

The line would not cling, and, therefore, have no effect in regulating the action of the rod if this "elliptical sweep," A B C D (Fig. C) were made with the line bowing inwards, whereas the rod in its progress would tug the line when bowed in an opposite direction (dotted line in 1); hence the necessity of the "twitch" which sets the line in swing. The impellent power concentrated in the final bend D (Fig. C) secures the desired action of the rod in launching the line before the rod in its recovery has any injurious influence. This can always be delayed, and thus obviated by an upward spring (Fig. A, showing effect), to which I will allude again presently.

The line would be paralysed, and, to adopt a homely phrase, "fall all of a heap" if that part resting on the water (No. 1, the line supposed to be floating straight to the fly) were disturbed by the play of the rod, A B C D E (Fig. C), while accomplishing this intermediate figure. (The point C is the outmost point to the right of the curve, the dots from A to E with the arrow indicating the rod's advance.)

Right or left-hand casting is ruled by the side of the river from which the angler is working; it must be disregarded in this cast (*vide* No. 1), the fisherman being an ambidexter, which is often requisite. (In No. 2 the cast has been commenced and completed left-handed, but whether left or right the action of the rod would be the same. Fig. C represents the turn being made right-handed only.) The rod may be slantingly or perpendicularly raised, whichever insures the floating line to weathercock to an imaginary diametral mark in the oval sweep, F to G (Fig. C). That it does so is an absolute necessity, and it is equally imperative that only the portion of the line which is out of the water be employed during this overhead work.

If, therefore, the floating line be deceitfully shifted by any "extremely disrespectful" and approximate back eddy the rod must be whisked from left to right—as in No. 1—at the immediate expiration of the force of velocity previously mentioned. A somewhat analogous instance may be remembered when the current is not sufficiently rapid to counteract the ill effect of a strong wind.

(5) In proceeding to make the "thrash" the power required is entirely suggested by the length of the cast. Gradually increase the pressure at the butt most with the upper hand, and work having and maintaining a similar desire to that which would be usual, supposing the joints of the rod had to be propelled from their sockets, and travel as an arrow across the water.

This centrifugal force, emanating from the generated centre at the butt where the strength is applied drives its course along, see effect B C (Fig. A), expelling the line, and exhausts itself in the final evolution of the loop (C D, Fig. B, thirty yards off), which transfers the fly to the direction indicated by the rod when the downcast is completed.

The fall of the line can be considerably "ornamented" (in some pools it must fall lightly), and to satisfy fancy the fly can be made to settle as gently as thistledown by an upward spring of the point of the rod, A (Fig. B), pausing slightly after the downcast.

The adepts—"commandants" in our ranks—complete this graceful cast by a miracle of dexterity above the surface of the water, shooting line. The thrash is, however, a more forcible, but still a spontaneous brachial effort. Checked earlier, the coils between thumb and finger are allowed their freedom when the line is at the maximum point of tension, which is as soon as the rod is restrained in its descent. Practice dictates when this restraint takes place; personally, it would be at an angle of 45 deg., but others may require more or less room.

It will be found how valuable this method is, there being no occasion to work the rod or line behind the angler, nor is the line at any time higher than the rod when "petering"—as the turn A B C D (Fig. C) is often called. Thus, the longest switch is effected; therefore, it should precede if not extinguish others of its brethren always to be seen on the Irish lakes, &c.

Hatched at Halstead, in sympathy with tradition it has made many converts, and has abundant precedent for supereminence. Though only "favoured" when necessary, truly it is the King of casts—I may add, in my feeble attempt to expound its mystic significance, the rosiest of any, and when it can be seen in all its full-blown magnificence, the fisherman can fish any river, almost any pool.

Our juveniles are frequently too sensitive in asking an opinion by a pool, fearing intrusion; *pauvres enfants*, when once "weaned" you are always welcomed. Some unfortunately under-value advice; others, though it seems distasteful at the time, are ever ready to read any stimulating words, even if their lesson is couched in curt language assuming almost an appearance of severity. This erring in nine cases out of ten is all on the side of their excessive liberality predominant in roach angling and "parlours of puns"; and preferring, conscious of their own weakness, to quietly sit down and learn from the experienced authority by ocular demonstration.

Fishermen are educated quickly by events, slowly by arguments; any instructions to be of the least service must be plain, yet powerful and penetrating.

True and generous, struggling for honours in friendly antagonism—but where am I wandering! Study, and strive to succeed; surely this alone is suggestive of other pleasure, for the hand strongest in sport is ready in need and ever warm in friendship.

Having addressed, I take the liberty of advising the novice to practise this cast before visiting a salmon river. Each of these casts which will form the subject of future illustrations, including this, were effected with personal satisfaction by a special-rod kindly lent by Messrs. Farlow and Co. The model pattern is the result of several years' work and observant attention during experiments.

I propose the "Flip Cast" for my next article, accompanied with a few practical and concise observations on "Stone-grubbing," "Hook-fouling," &c.

G. M. K.

[Many of our readers will recognise in the excellent sketches Mr. Partridge has made of Mr. Kelson executing the "Switch" a capital portrait of Mr. K. As there will be a large demand for this number, we advise our readers to take care of it.—ED.]

IZAACK WALTON.

We print, says the *Athenæum*, in spite of their lack of form, the following lines by Mr. T. Westwood, on account of the charm of the idea:—

IZAACK WALTON, obiit Dec. 15, 1683.

Father of anglers! when, two hundred years
Agone, Death sealed thine eyes, his visage froze
Grew touched—the legend tells—with sudden ruth.
He sealed thine eyes from tears and world's despite
With icy fingers, but he spared thy heart.
"Not death, but dreams, through all the years to come
Shall be thy portion, sweetest soul," he said—
"Dreams of accustomed fields and haunts of yore,
Trout-dimpled pool, and babbling brook and burn—
Dreams of old faces and familiar speech,
Of cordial geste and gossip by the way—
Dreams of immortal morn, eternal May."

So Fice-ear, bending, Izaak, o'er thy tomb,
Through chink and crevice of the mouldering stone
Hears, as it were, a ripple and a rhyme—
Hears quaint discourse—Piscator's homily,
Venator's staid response, and, after pause,
The piping minor of the Milkmaid's song,
With cadence of the nightingale and thrush,
Or distant-sounding bay of otter-hounds—
Old life, old sport of Lea-side and of Dove—
The life we cherish and the sport we love.

THE TOBACCO HABIT.—"The tobacco habit," wrote the editor, while the apprentice stood by the sanctum desk waiting for copy, "the tobacco habit is an evil that the press of the country should bring its united powers against. It is an insidious foe to health. It lessens mental vigour, shatters the nervous system, and destroys the vital forces of the digestive organs. The rapid increase of this habit, ruinous to body and mind, and taxing our purses, is enough to fill the minds of deep thinkers of our age with darkest forebodings for the future of our nation." And then the editor handed the copy to the indented apprentice, filled his briar-wood with "sun-dried honey-dew," scraped a red-headed match upon the wall; and as the blue smoke curled upwards in graceful wreaths that formed a halo about the editor's head, he leaned back in his easy chair, closed his eyes and wondered what in the course of human events he should write about next.—*Middletown Transcript*.

ANGLING FOR SALMON.

BY GEO. M. KELSON.

(Second Article with Illustrations Nos. 3 and 4).

THE "FLIP CAST."

NOW that I have emerged from the "wood" so strikingly, and thus been cleverly introduced to you by the able artist who has undoubtedly afforded the chance of his name being handed down to posterity on the hem of my—ahem—waders, surely there need be no cause for a pause in the conversation—nothing to vex the charm of any personal *bien être*.

It is a notorious fact that the bent of many a young mind destined to achieve great things, has dated from the accidental perusal of a fascinating volume, or the contemplation of a suggestive picture. These articles must be considered merely as a very condensed essay upon the subject; still if they should have any inspiring effect by directing and stimulating the energies of the rising generation of salmon fishermen, my most hearty desire will be realised. A drop of water—be it remembered—seems to have no influence on the stone, but it will in the end wear its way through.

Fishermen proceed, feeling that predominant eagerness which scores of others have also felt; they are always given to sober reflection, patient to investigate, slow to act when haste is not necessary, but swift and prompt in emergency.

Every hard working man should have a hobby to brighten the hours of repose; he who labours severely during the day cannot entirely abandon his work at evening; he cannot rid himself, as it were, of his responsibilities.

The vacation (short, or even long) may do something, but not all, for those who carry their business on their brain, and it often happens these gentlemen go to places where, under solitude, newspapers are their only support; Fate, in bitter irony, having decreed no other pleasure or means of relief from the fatigue and sameness of their mental labour. Without a fibre in their nature attuned to yours, not a chord that is in harmony with yours,—without that cloudless eager excitability, that fearless and vehement passion,—it would be a hopeless task indeed, an impossibility perhaps, to explain to them the love for the gentle art of salmon angling, or why it is so ardently appreciated by others whose very hearts and souls seem vested in the sedgy sides of the river, linked amongst the tall yellow flowering flags, no furnace being strong enough to unsolder, the chains they forge for ever! The best of us never really know when we can insure sport. Probably the habits of fish are formed in many respects similar to those of our own; fish feed, perhaps, because they see others do so; instinct leads them to some, and we educate them to many other customs. For example, they do not learn "stone-grubbing" from us; neither do we teach them to treat all "our invitations" with indifference, and be so horribly restless before a fresh. Like the watchful rook, salmon are startled by every crouching sportsman, and are always on the *qui vive*; yet the casual pedestrian, or passing water-bailiff, never disturb them by their presence. When salmon have rid themselves of all sea animalculæ and rested in one or two pools, their first lesson is generally learnt, and they may be considered proficient in their choice of a fly—or rather what many call a fly. Upon another occasion I will endeavour to satisfactorily explain why it is some flies cannot swim well. It is a common error to fancy they fish better when quite new, and all the drilling in the world to those dressed by the awkward squad is "labour in vain." James Wright, of Sprouston, never makes one to "wobble"; Malloch (of Perth), Michael Rogan (Ballyshannon), rank also first class; while Major Traherne, Mr. Basil Field, and Canon Smith are three of our best amateurs which no professional could improve; the latter gentleman possessing a few of the best natural hackles I have ever seen. The London firms are constantly changing their assistants, so I will endeavour to make a further inspection before alluding to them.

While on the subject of tackle, I may say the varnish and ferrule disease on stiff-butted rods—admirably suited to drill holes in the hide of a rhinoceros—often has a crowning temptation upon the young and inexperienced, resulting in muddle and mortification.

In selecting these materials youth is apt to judge in haste, "and lose the medium in the wild extreme." A salmon rod must be neither too stiff, nor too pliant; though some slight advantage may be found in both it is impossible that in either there can be that power which is absolutely required for general service. "Doctors" differ considerably upon this important subject. Perhaps I may express my views later on, without entering now into the considerations upon which those views are based. Were it not for this happy disagreement it may be doubted whether the higher piscatorial art could ever have attained

even the present degree of perfection. The old-fashioned, useless weapons have surely had their day; they are "played" out, their illusions are dropping one by one, as the petals of a faded flower, loth yet forced to fall. These various casts cannot be made with them; any decisive success with a particular cast would tend only to complicate matters, and the artist would return home, merely to turn over in wretched arithmetic, the sum he owes for his extravagance. Experience is a dear school; some—but very few—learn in no other, and scarcely in that.

"Stone-grubbing," which I have already mentioned but not explained, can be immediately detected; the sensation reminds one of a terrier shaking a rat. Experience has confirmed me in the conviction that the speculation will prove a disastrous failure if any strength be applied; therefore, the line should be considerably slackened. Get on good terms with the fish by getting pretty well opposite to it, and stone him away. The object of this manoeuvre of his is to break the hook at the bend, which is the usual result of the performance, and often accomplished with seeming facility.

If you succeed in bringing one of these performers to bank you will find the hooks in proximity to, if not actually inserted, in a bone.

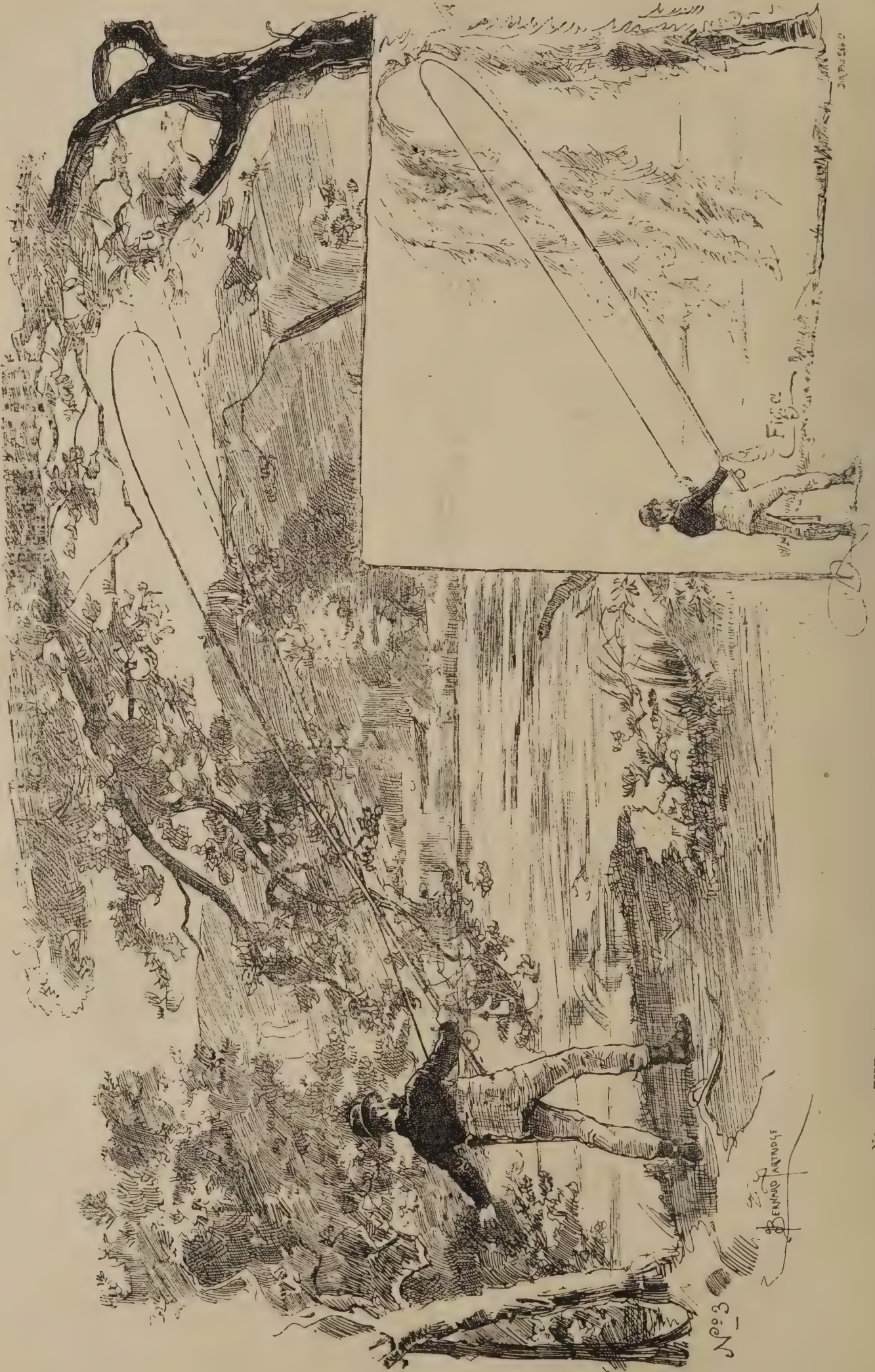
Glancing at "hook-fouling," there is a golden rule worth noting when salmon are hooked in the back. Their antics then, are strange and weird; their airy somersaults, which would make Blondin sick with envy, are soon exchanged for feeble plunges; the fight is short, sharp, and severe in a strong stream; and so, "by many winding nooks he strays." Under favourable circumstances, when the fish can be followed, it will seldom be lost provided the fisherman be not solitarily situated. A fairly firm hold should be kept on it, until it rises to the surface and lies across the water to be carried down-stream by the force of the current, which always occurs when exhaustion sets in; then, with the rod upright, stand perfectly still, and allow the reel to uncoil sufficient line—100 yards, if necessary—to ensure your being so far above the fish, that, in following it, you do not alter its course. In advancing step by step afterwards, never lose the bend of the rod; arriving at the head of a fordable shallow (frequently found in salmon rivers), suddenly loosen line by dropping the point of the rod, when the fish will disappear, and face, as usual, up the river again. Should your assistant be without waders give him the rod and walk into the water well below. Carefully and quietly locate yourself, avoiding all dangerous stumbling blocks in the way of large stones with muck and moss. As soon as the fish is shown the butt again, its advent will direct you to the right or left, and you will certainly be able to use the gaff effectually, and without in the least disturbing your prize in its floating descent. All chance of success will however be brought down to zero, and a vivid exemplification of the soundness of these precepts will be quickly manifested, if the angler "holds on" in the absence of help.

Our gallant young members, having scarcely any down on their cheeks, enjoying the first blush of manhood, with little remembrance of the yesterday or care of the morrow, invariably endear themselves to their seniors, and for their sake I venture a word of advice. They little think of the risks they run in their inexperience, and the trials they have to contend with—which, indeed, in this world none of us can choose, but all have to bear. These aspiring amateurs should abstain from practices which would tend to injure health; they should consider this as well as comfort, for it is the greatest of all possessions, and money cannot buy it: let me therefore urge the study of and adherence to a few well-recognised principles, which by degrees will become interesting, as they become more familiar. The inexhaustible mine of cramp, lumbago, and rheumatism is prophesied in cheap books which need but little pruning, except to infuse vigour where they are languid, and the exchange of less forcible for more appropriate epithets.

Recruits seldom allow an interval for airing their waders. To them I seriously appeal so to do. I am quite aware it is as great a misery to some to be obliged to do a thing slowly, as it is to others to do it quickly, yet in drying waders *festina lente* is the maxim; the process cannot be properly done in a hurry. We know that taste alters considerably from youth to age, and that our sight often grows keener from observation;—and here I may remind you that, to behold is not necessarily to observe, and the power of comparing and combining is only to be obtained by education, after which, bad habits and prejudices are outgrown, making way for fancy, ripening for the study of other varied views, until a well-earned and mellowed reputation is attained.

To scamper over a pool in gleeful recklessness is a grave error, and it is a sorry temptation to the novice to lug away at the line if his fly should get fixed on the off side of a peeping rock; it is a marvel if he doesn't, (especially when the pool happens to be almost alive with fish), entirely disregarding rod, line, gut, and

TO ILLUSTRATE "ANGLING FOR SALMON." BY GEORGE M. KELSON. (SECOND ARTICLE.)



No. 3—THE 'ELEVATED FLIP' CAST.

(See FISHING GAZETTE, Feb. 2 1884.)

FIG. A. THE 'OVERHAND FLIP' CAST.

TO ILLUSTRATE "ANGLING FOR SALMON." BY GEO. M. KELSON. (SECOND ARTICLE.)



No. 4.—THE "FLIP" CAST. (See FISHING GAZETTE, Feb. 2, 1884.)

fly, benefiting no one in the attempt—nothing, save his cheque-book and fishing-rod makers. Should such a contingency occur, instead of straining the tackle, pay out 10 or 12 yards more line, and walk well above, wade in, or get close to the water, and with the down-cast (No. 2 illustration, 19th Ult.) switch, shooting line well over to the opposite bank. Be sure to get the line as far over the other side of the river as possible, then move slowly down towards the rock, and when the line has been conveyed by the stream well below and beyond it, give a sharp, long pull with the line, *but not the rod*, if in the interim the force of the current has not already unfixed the hook. In choppy winds we occasionally foul-hook the extremity of an opposite bough, and lucky indeed if it is merely fouled, and not hooked. The line, then, must be kept off the water, and you should crawl as far below as you were above, and make a powerful upward thrash with the rod, the reverse exactly of the down cast, (previously explained), while the line above the water is slightly bowing downwards.

I should hardly be expected to give directions to a difficulty such as the little memorable episode on Ballyshannon Bridge, when, without a moment's notice, the reel "whirled its welcome rattle," the line went, and the fly well hooked, not in the jaw of a fresh-run fish, but in the tail of a fine old retriever, which made away in frantic fury up the street, creating such a hullabaloo that visible traces of the excitement lasted for the day, and, for aught I know—as far as the poor canine pet was concerned—for the night.

Or when Mike, of Lough Melvin, whose shrewd, sharp sarcasm passes muster as wit among his many admirers, persisted in pin-cushioning the woolly covering over his head on a boisterous day with flies; and in the endeavour to save his cap, with its valuable tenants, in a sudden gust, had the misfortune to imbed a No. 1 hook firm and fast on his creditable cranium. The boat was decorated by a medical gentleman, and that luminary, Fe Parker; between them, with the aid of a lancet, they effectually relieved Mike of his burden. It is doubtful if I can suggest any other practical alternative, it being obvious that a disgorger would not be a suitable instrument!

DESCRIPTION OF THE FLIP.

In describing the Flip, which is still in the initial stage of development, I am reminded of a maiden sessions as I have no brief; in place of which, however, I offer the following observations:—This cast requiring no excessive tactical wisdom, is rendered necessary by one important circumstance, for without it the "bush catch" is left a maiden pool. There is no difference of opinion that these otherwise impregnable positions are naturally cleared away and cut out for us, the undergrowth being levelled, almost chiselled, off by the dashing *debris* in floods. Unless the wading path be rocky, the angler should allow good time for the water to clear around the immediate scene of action, after he has thickened it in locating himself. Then, draw a little line from the reel, coil it (*vide* illustration), and hold it between the forefinger and thumb; point the rod to the extremity of the bushes, and in bending it back, pull the fly between the thumb and finger of the right hand, opposite to the winch, allowing, say, about four yards of line. Here take good aim to ensure steadiness; then, with a rapid action of the hand which holds the fly, extend the arm fully and let go. At this instant the rod from the point A—supposed now to be about the centre of the bushes, having allowed the coils from the left hand to depart in the movement—must be brought quickly to the dotted line B. After playing the fly to your satisfaction, swing the rod across the stream to C (No. 4) and wind up the reel, for changing the fly, or repeating the cast.

If very much cramped for room, the line can be wound up till the fly nearly reaches the upper ring of the rod; effect this off the catch, supposed to be lower down between A and B, by pointing the rod close under the left bank. (See No. 4.)

Never use treble gut at the end of the line, and if the cast is over 15 yards, put on three or four shot, 14 inches above the fly, 3 or 4 inches apart, and one 1½ yards from them. Untapered lines are the best for Flipping. The flies are always made with a thin layer of lead up the shank of the hook, under the seal's fur. The rod, which is used horizontally under low bushes, should be elevated when practicable (see No. 3), and, having this extra space for the fall of the fly, a *double* movement of the rod from A to B and back to A will be advantageous. This is entirely a butt action, and requires the use of both hands.

I may conscientiously assert that it is always better to *cast* than pay out line in presenting the fly whenever it is possible to do so, for it is much more likely to rouse the fish. There are certain well-established truths in angling, which are palpable and unchangeable as the laws of Nature, and are easily discovered; this is one of them; if the catch is too distant, flip as far as you can, shooting line, is another. Why should not a salmon see the fly, even if it is cast

a dozen yards from its haunt? The fall of an acorn often attracts attention, we know that—we see it occasionally; and why should we not assume that salmon frequent bushes not only for shade and shelter, but as a post of observation for food—grubs, &c.,—falling from the twigs? It is the intelligent eye of the careful observer which gives these apparently trivial phenomena their brevet of value. Who, with any experience, has not seen salmon rush at wasps and caterpillars? This led me to invent the "Glowworm," which is the best fly for this special purpose. It is the close observation of little things which generates the secrets of success in salmon fishing, equally so in other art and science, and, in fact, every pursuit in life. A good deal of our knowledge is but an accumulation of small facts, made by successive generations of men; even many speculations, seemingly remote, turn out to be the basis of results the most obviously practical.

The only new and original procedure in this cast, which is as old as the hills, and possibly quite as familiar, will be noted in fig. A. And in the double motion of the rod between A and B in No. 3 illustration, which is productive of additional propelling power, concentrated in the butt.

Cane rods, if properly balanced, are the best for this cast, and perhaps there is nothing to beat Mr. Aldred's new model, which is capable of wresting the laurels from the late Fisheries Exhibition demonstration of the Flip. This is a three-piece spliced cane rod, not expensive, and very rapid in its action and return, 15 feet 10 inches, and a useful companion for small rivers. Colonel Teesdale—long since establishing his claim to that of General in our ranks—after twenty years' experience of them, pronounces them to be useful and durable. This side-flipping, however, is sometimes rendered impossible.

Willow trees, with their elegant festooning, their weeping boughs dipping and ruffling the water, are truly characteristic of their nature; and should suggest "a despatch conveying the invitation for an engagement." When these openings admit (see fig. A) they may be profitably utilised by the Overhand Flip; the rod being steadied at the butt between the legs, and the left hand, bringing the fly almost in contact with the top waistcoat button; but it is useless to attempt it in rough weather, for obvious reasons.

The Flip can generally be managed in its entirety from woods, where no other possible means could avail; but the student must not expect to become *au fait* with the more intricate details of the cast, without diligence.

Hope! the mother of prosperity, when the companion in practice;—she makes a seeming possibility give way;—like the cork to the net, she keeps us from sinking into despair. Remember, he who works with his head as well as his heart, will soon scan this fascinating employment with a clearer eye; and become happily conscious of increasing knowledge, perhaps the most cheering consciousness the human mind can cherish. I trust I have given the cue for that success which can easily be achieved for this cast; though it requires much practice, it is not a matter of muscle, but of tact, won by patience and perseverance.

The "Governor cast" and "Overhand" will be the next illustrated, with other remarks.

[Mr. Kelson's introductory article appeared in our Christmas Number, and his first illustrated article in our issue for January 19.—ED.]

THREE FISHERS.

Three fishers went strolling away to the stream
To the babbling brook where the fishes swim;
Of fine fat trout they all did dream,
And each felt certain they'd bite for him.
For men will tramp from morning till night,
And suffer the fierce mosquito's bite,
And drink to stop their groaning.

Three fishers strolled into the market-place,
'Twas some hours after the sun went down,
A look of gloom was on each man's face,
For at empty baskets they each did frown.
For men may fish, and may get no bite,
And tired and hungry go home at night,
And vent their wrath in groaning.

Three fishers strolled into the beer saloon,
Where the crowd sat round and the gas was bright,
And each gaily whistled a merry tune,
And showed his fish with assumed delight.
For men will fish, yea, and men will lie,
And boast of catching the fish they buy,
While inwardly they're groaning.

GEORGE JAMES EATON, of Starkholmes, Matlock-Bath, Derbyshire, respectfully invited Noblemen and Gentlemen to try his standard FLIES for the present season. No flies sent or made up but what he himself has proved sure killers. A trial is all that is required from gentlemen who can fish, to prove whether they may be genuine or not. Patronised by some of the best fishermen of the day. All flies dressed on the best Kenal hooks. Prices Point Flies, 2s. 6d. per Dozen; Dropper Flies, 2s. per Dozen. Orders punctually attended to.—(ADVT.)

A WET DAY'S PIKE-FISHING WITH MR. JARDINE.

BY R. B. MARSTON.

THE opening months of this year have been fatal ones for pike; and I certainly shall always look upon Saturday, the 9th, and Tuesday, the 12th of February, as red-letter days in my angling reminiscences. On the 9th I fished with Mr. Jardine and a young friend, who, under my tuition, has gone "angling mad"—at least, so his mother tells me. On the 12th, I fished with Mr. T. R. Sachs—but I shall refer to this second expedition presently.

In consequence of a letter from Mr. Jardine, asking if I would join him in an "experiment," I found myself with my pupil Jack on the platform of the Great Meridian Railway on Friday evening. Mr. Jardine soon joined us, and after a journey of nearly a hundred miles we were glad to make a substantial tea at the comfortable Linkwater Arms, in Danesbury. The "experiment" was to consist of fishing some water—a fine stretch of river—entirely new to both of us. We knew it contained pike, and that certain monsters had been caught in nets in the same water higher up, and others had smashed the tackle of local anglers in a very contemptuous fashion. We had scarcely finished our meal when in came a gentleman, an artist friend of Mr. Jardine, to invite us to his house to supper, and a very pleasant evening we spent with him looking over his pictures, chatting about the historically-interesting district we were in, and its angling capabilities. It was late before we got back to our quarters, and Jack and I wisely went off to bed, leaving Mr. J. to sit up and "just have a pipe and 'night-cap'" with our host. It must have been a pretty long "night-cap," for when I had been asleep three hours I heard Mr. J. come up to bed, slamming the doors as though they had insulted him.

About nine o'clock next morning, after a six miles' drive through what in summer must be most lovely scenery, we arrived at our starting point for fishing. Mr. Brown, the gentleman who had given the necessary permission, met us at his house and insisted on our partaking of some refreshment. The river winding through the valley just below looked very "fishful," and it was not long before we commenced our experiment. The water was perfectly clear, and what I have christened Mr. Jardine's "Patent Nostrum,"—i.e., a single gut "pater"—with his snap hooks, was the most likely tackle. I rigged Jack out with one, and he had not been fishing five minutes before I heard him cry out that he had a fish. I ran with the gaff, and Jack was soon admiring one of his namesakes, of about four pounds, kicking about at his feet. In the hurry of packing I had omitted to bring a gaff, and we had to trouble Mr. J. for his whenever we got a fish. When I got back to Mr. J., who was fishing a broad, deep hole, he had just "felt" a fish; it was evidently one of his big ones, from the steady, slow, and heavy manner in which it worked about. Suddenly it dashed off, the extremely fine line spun out, and snapped, perhaps 15 yards from the hooks. Our artist friend and myself were apparently much more grieved over the mishap than Mr. J., who attributed it to having trodden on the line and partly severed it. Our genial artist friend has a peculiar method of pike-fishing. When out sketching and in want of a pike to paint from, he puts a dace on a spinning flight, and with 30 or 40 yards of line coiled on his hand and no rod, he generally gets what he wants, and has become so expert that he can pitch his bait within a few feet of any point he aims at up to 30 yards. He then pulls it through the water hand over hand. A gaff completed his outfit. I rigged up a big dace to cast from the reel, and went a field or two higher up to fish a fine and deep pool at the head of the island from which my friends were fishing. In attempting to cast the heavy bait over an alder tree I managed to catch the top bough in such a way that the bait and flight swung round it too many times to count, and there was nothing for it but a steady pull. I was using a fine, undressed, plaited-silk Nottingham line, and was surprised at the amount of pull the line and salmon gut stood. The bough bent like a bow, then something gave, and I felt the lead come thud against my chest with such force that I was very glad it had not struck me in the face. The gut had snapped close to the hooks—probably where it chafed on the bough. Finding the water here too wooded for spinning, I went back to look for my friends, and put on snap tackle. I found Mr. J. had just caught a very handsome fish of 15 lb., and thrown back several small fish. It had been drizzling for some time, and now a perfect deluge of rain came down, mixed with hail, and this lasted the whole of the day. The wind rose and drove the hail like shot into our faces. We fished on down for half a mile without getting anything but small fish, and then we came to a mill, the water below which turned out to be by far the best for fish. At the mill we divided company, Mr. J. going down the left bank and Jack and I the right. Just below the mill-tail I got a 5 lb. fish,

which required the gaff, as there was a fence at the water's edge. Mr. J. very kindly threw it across, but not quite far enough, and while Jack was fishing it out I attempted to lift the fish out, when the hold gave way, and I saw him swim a few yards out and rest. I put another bait before him, and he had it instantly, and was soon gaffed. Then Mr. J. got a fish, and the gaff had to go over again. Then I got one which fought like a fifteen-pounder, and the gaff was called for and "dodged" as it whizzed past us on to the grass. I weighed the fish, afterwards at the mill, and was disappointed to find it only went 11 lb.—a more plucky pike I never had hold of. Jack then had a good bit of fun with a fish which had his home under the bank, and which took the bait three times, releasing it just as it was time to use the gaff. But it would occupy too much space to recount all our adventures. In spite of the drenching rain, we enjoyed our sport immensely. Mr. J. got another good fish, of 12 lb. He found the left bank a network of water "grips" which he had to jump or go round, and armed with a perfect *chevaux-de-frise* in the shape of osiers cut off just above the ground. We fished on down for a mile, and then made tracks for the farmhouse. In addition to forgetting the gaff, I had forgotten my mackintosh leggings, and the hiatus between a short waterproof "gossamer" cape and knee boots proved a most unpleasant one. The rain found its way down my legs into the boots, and I looked forward to six hours or more of sitting in enough water to drown a litter of kittens in. Jack was in no better plight. Judge, then, of our delight on reaching our friend's house, to find he had got complete changes of dry clothes warming at the fire for us! and hot grog steaming on the hob. "The unexpected always happens" as Lord Beaconsfield used to say, and certainly this welcome change from dripping garments to dry ones was most unexpected; but this was only part of the unexpected. Mr. Brown insisted on our remaining to take tea with him—a regular farmer's tea it was too;—many a "dinner" have I eaten that would have looked small beside it. I think if Mr. Brown had had his way, we should be sitting in his cosy dining-room now; for, tea disposed of, we all settled down to cigars and whisky—when I say all, I must except Jack and our host's very charming daughter. Jack, like a wise boy, does not yet smoke or drink whisky, and I need hardly say Miss Brown did not assist us farther than by liberally dispensing those luxuries to tired-out anglers. But the example of Her Majesty is one we Britons always feel proud in following; and I see from the Queen's New Book that, when present at a Highland christening, Her Majesty says, "I thought it most appropriate, touching, and impressive. I gave my present (a silver mug) to the father, kissed the little baby, and then we all drank to its health and that of its mother in whisky, which was handed round with cakes." Shure now, if yer Majesty would only go to Ould Oireland occasionally, and take a drap o' the crater at an Irish christening, it would do more to bring back Irish loyalty than all the bayonets and buckshots together!

Seeing a piano in the room, I ventured to ask Miss Brown if she would not favour us with a little music,—fully expecting—no not fully expecting, for Miss B. caught a 3 lb. grayling last summer,—that the piano would require tuning. "If it will give any pleasure, I will do so," very unaffectedly said, naturally elicited our thanks, and, while our smoke went up, and our whisky went down, we listened to some of Beethoven's choicest pieces most admirably rendered. Then our artist friend, who had "run for shelter" long before we did, asked for a song, and a duet from Miss Brown and Mr. Jardine terminated our most pleasant visit to Mr. Brown. May we all tumble upon such a hospitable reception after a long wet day's fishing!

We were loth to leave; but time and the last train wait for no man, so with many hearty thanks to our host and his accomplished daughter, we packed up our traps and returned to Danesbury. Our catch was not a *very* great one; but considering the day, and that we fished a new water, and had to find out the feeding places, we were perfectly satisfied with about 70 lb. of fish, the four best going 9 lb., 11 lb., 12 lb., and 15 lb. "Honours equally divided," Mr. Jardine was kind enough to put it, though he got the two best fish. Jack will long remember our "wet day with Mr. Jardine," and so shall I.

A FINE DAY'S PIKE-FISHING WITH MR. SACHS.

THE heavy rains of Saturday and Sunday made me feel sure, when I got a letter from Mr. T. R. Sachs, asking me to join him in a trip to a "big" pike water, that it would be useless, and I telegraphed to ask him to put it off. But this only had the effect of bringing Mr. S. round in post haste to say the water he had in view "never got thick"—well, "hardly ever"—even after weeks of rain. He had got the "permit" especially to take me, and go I must. This was on Monday, at two o'clock, in London. I had left my rods and tackle at home; but his assurance that the

water was all right was enough, and off I started to Croydon to get my things, and meet him at St. Pancras at five o'clock. I got back to St. Pancras just ten minutes after the five o'clock train had gone; and a long "stern chase" ended in my finding Mr. S., smoking a cigar in the large coffee-room of the Blue Dragon, at Witleesford, three hours later. After some refreshment, I joined him with a cigar, and we had a long and to me most interesting chat—or, rather, I should say, I listened while Mr. S. recounted experiences from his long angling career in England, Wales, Scotland, Ireland, and Germany. But what pleased me most were accounts of his previous exploits among the pike in the water we were to fish on the morrow—days with well-known anglers, some now gone to their long rest. I met him in the hall next morning, and, on tapping the barometer, we were glad to see it went "up." An hour later we were anchored in our punt in the middle of a beautiful lake, at a spot which had often yielded giants. And then commenced the hardest day's sport, I think, I ever had. My "pater" had scarcely descended to the bottom of the transparent water, 10 feet deep, before I had a response, and found a fish of 9 lb. was endeavouring to purloin my dace. After a good fight, his career ended in the punt. Then Mr. S. threw out his float tackle, with "Jardine snap," and it was gone in an instant. In fact, for the next two hours there was no time even to light a pipe, and we did nothing but strike, play, and gaff fish. And how they fought! My arm aches now as I write, simply from playing them; fully half our time was employed in getting the hooks out of the fish. I fished from the reel, and, by the way, I used Mr. Slater's new combination Nottingham for the first time, and am perfectly delighted with it—it is the perfection of a winch. Mr. Sachs used the Thames style. Just before lunch, I got the best fish of the day, a 12-pounder, just after Mr. S. got one of 11 lb. The weather was beautifully fine, with a nice breeze.

I never in my life fished in a water so peopled with pike; it did not matter where you cast your bait, you had a run directly. We had five or six dozen dace and roach, and about three o'clock had exhausted our stock, and had to go ashore and wait while the keeper got us some roach with a cast net. Then we used those up. Hoping to get a big fish I put on a $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. roach, much too heavy to cast far; but down went my big float (for the bottom was so weedy I had to give up the "pater"), and I hoped a patriarch had found it; but it was only a fish of 8 or 9 lb. hanging on to the bait, without touching the hooks, and leaving go when he saw us. At last we were reduced to a few small gudgeon, and had to put two on at a time; but the glittering dace was the attraction, and only once when I had three gudgeon on together did I get a run with them, and caught our last fish, a good 7-pounder, to finish up with. The fish we kept (twenty-four) weighed 160 lb. next day. We put back over forty fish, which averaged over 3 lb.; several of 5 lb. and over (we had a pocket-balance in the punt, and weighed them) were returned to the water, so that at the lowest estimate we caught sixty-four pike in about seven hours, weighing at least 280 lb. I had the twenty-four weighed at 188, Fleet Street next day, and a very fine show they made, and greatly admired they were by many anglers and non-anglers. Mr. Sachs would only take three brace, and I had the pleasure of distributing the rest among a dozen or fifteen friends, with injunctions to "stuff them with veal stuffing and bake them." One of these friends was Mr. J. J. Manley, M.A., who happened to look in. My readers will remember how in his book, "Fish and Fishing," he refers to the taste of a pike he once caught. He says:—"It may not particularly interest my readers to know that I have a special antipathy to jack gastronomically; but such is the case." Then he recounts how he caught a jack of about 4 lb. in a friend's pond, and "with one voice it was determined he should be cooked for dinner, and, of course, everyone was obliged to eat a bit and pretend he liked it. But oh! the taste of that jack! I have never forgotten it. 'The touch of a vanished hand and the sound of a voice that is still, are mere trifles in the way of memory to the reminiscence of the flavour of that jack, which clings to me now, though nearly twenty years have passed since the day he was served. . . . I could eat, and I believe enjoy, a bit of old saddle-flap well stewed and served with rich gravy, a water-souche of blotting-paper, or a thin deal board curried; but a jack I cannot away with.'" I asked Mr. Manley if he would have a fish. He said the very sight of them reminded him of his Devonshire experience; but I was much amused to find he consented to "try" one of mine, and promised to "report" the result. Mr. Sachs tells me the jack from the water we fished are very fine eating, far better than Thames jack; so I trust Mr. Manley will be agreeably surprised, and at any rate will give us his candid opinion disassociated with the flavour of his ancient friend. I shall make a point of getting the opinions of the other friends on the subject. Mr. Senior, "Red Spinner," now Fishing Editor of the *Field and Bell's Life*, looked in just too late to see the fish; he, too, was out "piking" last Saturday, and had a capital day's

sport, getting some 70 lb. of fish, including 13, 12, and 10-pounders. One thing we have all noted, and that is, that another week or two of this extraordinary summer weather will send the jack on to the spawning beds.

I must not conclude these notes without thanking Mr. Jardine and Mr. Sachs for two of the most enjoyable days' fishing imaginable.
R. B. MARSTON.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

RECIPE FOR COOKING WORMS.

Some valuable hints respecting "neglected food resources" were given the other day to a reporter of one of the New York papers by Mr. Thomas J. Murray, the caterer to the Ichthyophagous Club. Almost everything that lives in salt water or fresh, upon the land or in the air, is, Mr. Murray asserts, good to eat. All that is necessary is "to know how to cook each thing, animal or vegetable, and to have the nerve to taste things after they are cooked." Seaweed he especially recommends—the commonest kinds being, if properly prepared, as edible and nutritious as most of the cultivated land plants. The members of the Ichthyophagous Club will eat almost anything cooked by Mr. Murray; but he had, he says, more difficulty in getting them to eat "angle-worms," than anything else he put before them. Yet the worms are, he declares, very good if properly prepared according to the following directions. Put your angle-worms on a fine sieve three or four inches from the bottom of a pail; fill the pail up with milk, and leave them there a few days. They will not only get rid of all the earth and sand they have in them, but will fatten up with astonishing rapidity until they are thicker than an ordinary lead pencil, and of a beautiful light colour. Take them out of the milk-bath, wash them in clean water, let them wriggle around in a little flour, or dust it well over them, and then drop them in a cauldron of boiling fat. That kills them instantly, and crisps them charmingly. Pile them on a napkin, garnish, and send to the table with drawn butter containing a little lemon juice and a dash of Worcester sauce." Provided no weak-minded prejudices are awakened by a knowledge of what they are, they will, added Mr. W. Murray, "delight all who taste them." A dinner of worms thus cooked, followed by some "Gladstone jam," would leave little to be desired."—*S. James's Gazette*.

A UNIFORM SIZE FOR REEL-PLATES.

The committee appointed by the American National Rod and Reel Association to report for their adoption a standard for reel-plates and reel seats, respectfully report:—

"A letter was sent to all the noted rod and reel makers throughout the country, asking their views and requesting their co-operation. Almost all of them responded to the circular, and some sent sizes of reel-plates and seats, one large manufacturer sending five different sizes, and all signified their willingness to conform to the standard adopted by the association. Your committee would recommend the following as the proper sizes for trout and black bass reel plates:—Length, $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches; width, $\frac{1}{2}$ inch; diameter of circle, $\frac{3}{4}$ inch; thickness at the ends, 2-100's of an inch. For salmon:—Length, $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches; width, $\frac{3}{4}$ inch; diameter of circle, 1 inch; thickness at the ends, 5-100's of an inch."

[The sizes recommended above seem to us to be as good as any that could be adopted. It would be a grand thing if we could get our reel makers to adopt the same sizes.—ED.]

DON'T.

"Don't" is the title of "A Manual of Mistakes and Improprieties more or less prevalent in conduct and speech," an American Guide to good manners reprinted by Messrs. Field and Tuer in their "vellum-parchment shilling series." This little work might almost be described as "a joke in sober earnest" like "Eng'ish as She is Spoke" in the same series, for though much of the advice given is very good, much more of it must certainly be superfluous even in a society of savages. We give a few specimens:—

If, at the dinner-table, you are about to put your knife into your mouth—
DON'T.

DON'T serve gentlemen guests at your table before *all* the ladies are served.

DON'T gurgle, or draw in your breath, or make other noises when eating soup.

DON'T bite your bread—break it off.

DON'T use a steel knife with fish.

DON'T eat fast or gorge; don't masticate audibly.

DON'T spit bits of bone or other substances back into the plate. Quietly eject them upon your fork.

DON'T talk when your mouth is full.

DON'T be vulgar.

DON'T come to breakfast in curl papers.

DON'T drink from your saucer.

DON'T decorate your shirt front with egg or coffee drippings.

DON'T wear your hat cocked over your eye.

DON'T chew or nurse your toothpick in public.

DON'T spit on the carpet.

DON'T be over-familiar.

DON'T strike your friends on the back, or nudge them in the side.

DON'T bolt without notice into anyone's private apartment.

DON'T neglect to raise your hat to a strange lady if you have the occasion to address her. If she drops her handkerchief and you pick it up for her, raise your hat. If in an omnibus you pass her fare to the conductor, raise your hat.

DON'T omit the correct use of the letter "h."

DON'T say *female* for WOMAN. The female sex of the human kind is entitled to some distinction.

DON'T call your servants *girls*.

DON'T say *don't* for *does not*.

DON'T say "I *done* it," "he *done* it," "they *done* it." This is a very gross error.

DON'T say "It is *him*," say "It is *he*." So also "It is *I*," not "It is *me*"; "It is *THEY*," not "It is *them*."

DON'T, when you inclose a letter to a correspondent to be forwarded, omit to place a stamp on the letter.

[DON'T!—ED. F.G.]

ANGLING FOR SALMON.

By GEO. M. KELSON.

(Third Article with Illustrations Nos. 5, 6, with figures.)

THE "OVERHAND" AND "GOVERNOR" CASTS.

It is the tendency of human nature never to be satisfied with one's lot long; our hopes may be blighted—we may be soured by ill-luck or misfortune, or we may be led to disappointment through ambition. It is, however, not easy to trim between too much liberty in method, and too little, especially by the side of a salmon river, where there are so many prizes and so few blanks, except perhaps, now and then, the blank of satiety. We have all heard or read of the peaceful and contented angler, but contentment, with salmon anglers is a fleeting flower—the wish beyond, *will* come; why not, for when we see others defeating us in pools where Cast No. 6 is a dead letter, is it not perfectly natural that we should be dissatisfied? Let us affect the dauntless spirit of resolution, and take consolation in our personal inspections; our day will come when we can command the catches equally well, after a careful study of every item on the credit side of the account of the experienced—a study invaluable, and a debt, which every novice surely owes to himself.

It is astonishing how many fishermen pioneer their own way—overcoming some obstacles by means of their own invention, however much didactic instruction forbids freedom; yet, discipline in the wader's path will be an agreeable and useful companion, leading certainly to comfort, if not to superlative success. Unfrequented pools should be closely examined by all, especially by the juvenile whose sentiment of adventure is almost a passion. A slip into thirty feet of surging torrent with yeasty crested waves, is not a pleasant prospect; but an extremely perilous performance with your four feet of waterproof wading material braced up over the shoulders! Can you imagine it? You can *see* it if you could but believe in it; and would not that serve to illustrate what a miraculous agent Faith is in her visionary deceit? Do not people see tables dance, hear fiddles played without bows, and the voices of beloved and long-lost friends talking in dark rooms, by the sheer force of belief? Still, the imagination is seldom satisfied till some sort of proficiency is scored by trying new dodges in difficult pools where others excel.

It rarely happens that anglers select salmon rivers for their first adventures or lessons in fishing.

Our piscatorial children whose ideas are limited to ponds in parks, hooking out prickly-backs with their rod of withy, and their line of cotton—excellent authorities on biscuits and buns—would probably prove more satisfactory scholars than raw recruits. The fancy having been roused, they find joy in anticipation; they have had a touch of disappointment in their little field of experience; an inkling of comparing their force with an opposing power perhaps; the charm of success has been painted on their minds; and although some have encountered repulses which rather inflame vehemence than teach prudence, they present themselves with a bright, cheerful, willing determination—a stimulus working wonders upon the trained acumen of the Tutor, who more readily accommodates his precepts to their capacities.

The "innocent," who has had his first license clipped, though made of stern stuff, is swayed by impulse and imagination; he is almost too courageous; how he fails in his attempt to baffle difficulty in excitement!—perhaps before he can learn good habits or even bad, he may hook a 20 lb. fresh-run fish, and then "what will he do with it?"

A sort of hopeless darkness seems to settle o'er his fate, and if any benevolent spirit comes to the rescue to prompt a word of advice, it would scarcely be accepted with dawdling disdain, certainly not with ingratitude. Two short words may emphasize the procedure—"Give" and "take,"—*i.e.*, when the fish is determined to run, hold the rod upright and give, or rather let him help himself to line; and when the least chance comes wind it back, never sparing your legs at the expense of your line. Most rapid and uninteresting information to some of my readers no doubt, but, perhaps, if I omit familiar rules, my list may appear the more incomplete.

The tricks and pranks of salmon, after they are hooked, vary according to their size; their acrobatic feats are bolder in spring; self-preservation—the inherent principle—is much more demonstrative then, than in autumn. A fish of 15 lb. generally affords most sport; and one of 20 lb. in October is easier controlled than a grilse in May. I say *controlled* advisedly, for it does not follow he will be more easily landed.

When all other schemes have failed, a salmon—particularly a heavy one—feigns death by sulking; escape—the object of his hope, probably prompts the measure. In such a crisis as this, and without entering into detail, let me strongly suggest the utter prohibition of "nightcaps." I would rather not educate the untutored mind by giving a definition of them; suffice to say that, this funnel-shaped, scarecrow, fifth-of-November business, simply accelerates the battle frequently fatal to the fisherman. In very large rivers free from the impediments of rocks, snags, or stumps, there may be some slight excuse for this jugglery in preference to the "bitterness of patience," the fruit, however, of which is often sweet; but then, it should not be overlooked that sulking is generally a ruse on the part of the salmon, and a *dernier ressort* requiring the most careful management, on the part of the angler especially when there is only a single hook in use, because the "hold" may have become so weakened that, this blind and wild delirium—this extra incited animation, may at once determine the struggle. Routing the fish when this trying ordeal sets in, by any strain put upon the rod, would be a hopeless task—indeed, an imposition as inconsistent and useless as hauling against Jumbo. I firmly believe the best and safest road to success is to walk straight and close to the fish; carefully winding in line; reverse the rod, seeing the reel and rings uppermost; put on all the

pressure possible with the rod in a vertical position, and abandon all other makeshift measures. But, if you have double hooks and the fish has been properly "hit,"—"Stand at ease," allow quite a slack line; and thus—contempt, for this "fit of the sulks" will be the best, quickest, and most comfortable cure.

The successful results of our practice and experiments under difficulties, the incalculable benefits which experience, systematically consulted and dispassionately reasoned on, have conferred on matters purely piscatorial, tend of necessity to impress something of the progressive character of the art—as it is called—on the more complicated conduct of our programme. How the advantages of correct management are to be secured, with the least possible risk and inconvenience to the angler, is a problem which would require pages to demonstrate.

The truth of the old saw "that a wise man learns from the experiences of others," is more and more impressed upon us, for we daily hear of some means whereby we can ride triumphantly over all challenged obstacles.

It frequently occurs that we have to fish over bushes which project more or less into and over the water; a natural screen for us from the keen eye of the salmon constantly harbouring there. If these were but properly pruned,—by cutting away the submerged growth only, there would be many more "deaths" recorded. When, however, this has not been attended to, and there is no possibility of leading or even hauling a fish below them in an engagement during which he heads in to them, meet him, and when he arrives, hold the rod horizontally as far as you can over him, and out beyond the bushes, reeling up every atom of line possible; but if the bushes do not extend hopelessly far, and you have the opportunity by the fish starting down the river, run immediately as fast as you can with him, and you will invariably be master, even if he is a monster, by keeping him going till he is out of danger; then, show no favour in the "fairer field."

Luxuriant lopping we loathe, and chopping down to the water's edge almost always destroys the pool. A salmon catch can be made by artificial means, but it is a risky undertaking and no advice is worth a jot, except from those having had practical experience, as any improper construction may be injurious to other pools even though situated at a considerable distance. Still, it could be planned, and often is by competent judges who are intimate enough with salmon rivers to be able to spot catches in strange waters.

Hoppoles and bine afford a splendid shelter in open reaches, but when the introduction of an artificial break-water is suggested for the neck of a likely locality by any but an experienced and practical judge, take heed—decline with thanks.

Any young member of the fraternity who is in conflict in a level pool should never allow a slack line if he can avoid it; there are exceptions, which I will explain directly. A heavy fish will often make up stream, and rush by unseen; as soon as this is noticed, retire rapidly into the field and make taut before approaching the water; if not feasible, run down by the side of the river, working back as the line is reeled in to regain command. Always drop the point of the rod and raise it in one movement, the instant the salmon leaps out of the water, making as it were, a bow, or salute with the rod, except when the fish only skirts the water to fight on its tail; you can at any rate be assured then, that, the hook has good hold, and now the point of the rod must be lowered till the dignified dance is done. Again, if the line should run foul under an opposite bush or dead limb, go from the fish, above or below, as the case may be, uncoiling line; and adopt the up, down, or side thrash, whichever you consider the most likely to get clear before resuming hostilities; but when the latter thrash is necessary, sway the line right and left to get it in full swing before the stroke.

LINES.

Salmon lines have only lately been brought to perfection, an accomplishment effected by a private gentleman—Mr. W. Wells Ridley, Holmewood, Kenilworth, opining that the ordinary productions were more suitable for tea dealers to tie up their packets than for the use of anglers, devoted an immense amount of time and attention to this special attribute to the fisherman's kit. Ambition once developed for the welfare of the class of anglers whose interests are bound up with our own, is naturally stimulated in any work as each succeeding difficulty is overcome. The simple statement that this gentleman has been successful in his endeavour is, indeed, but a poor compliment.

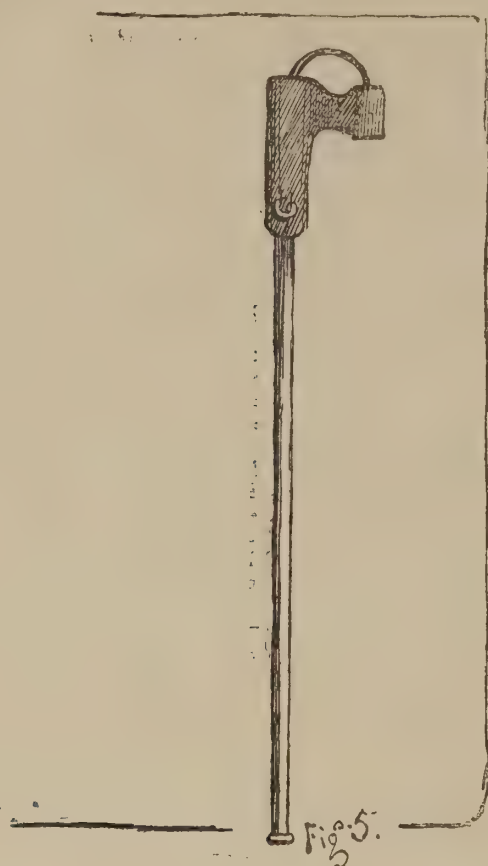
The best silk, the right weight, the happiest result in manufacture, after years of patient observation and practical experience as a salmon angler, have, at last, been ascertained.

These lines, tapering about five yards, are smaller, smoother, and yet heavier in proportion than any exhibited samples at the late South Kensington Show. They have justly earned the reputation of making longer casts with less exertion than any others; and though it is the height of folly to fancy we might stand in one pool to fish another with them—as has been ridiculously remarked—still, a very long cast is sometimes compulsory, and laid on by "sweet and cunning hand."

The silk, after being deprived of all gum contained in it, is plaited very closely in the round lines; and by the application of heavy weights, the square ones are made absolutely solid. They are then subjected to the process of tanning, with a view to obtain the colour usually sought after previous to the dressing; when the latter desideratum is accomplished, they are passed through an American machine; this contrivance produces a splendid polish and evenness over the dressing, which I may allude to another time.

Is not this but another instance of the "old saw"—how we benefit by each other, how man is in need of his fellow subject in sport as in all other callings? Nevertheless, it is desirable to inculcate and encourage in our "schools" the doctrine of self-help, which is nowhere in the wide world so well understood and enjoyed as by an old salmon fisherman.

ILLUSTRATIONS TO MR. GEO. M. KELSO



No. 5.—THE "GOVERNOR'S" CAST.

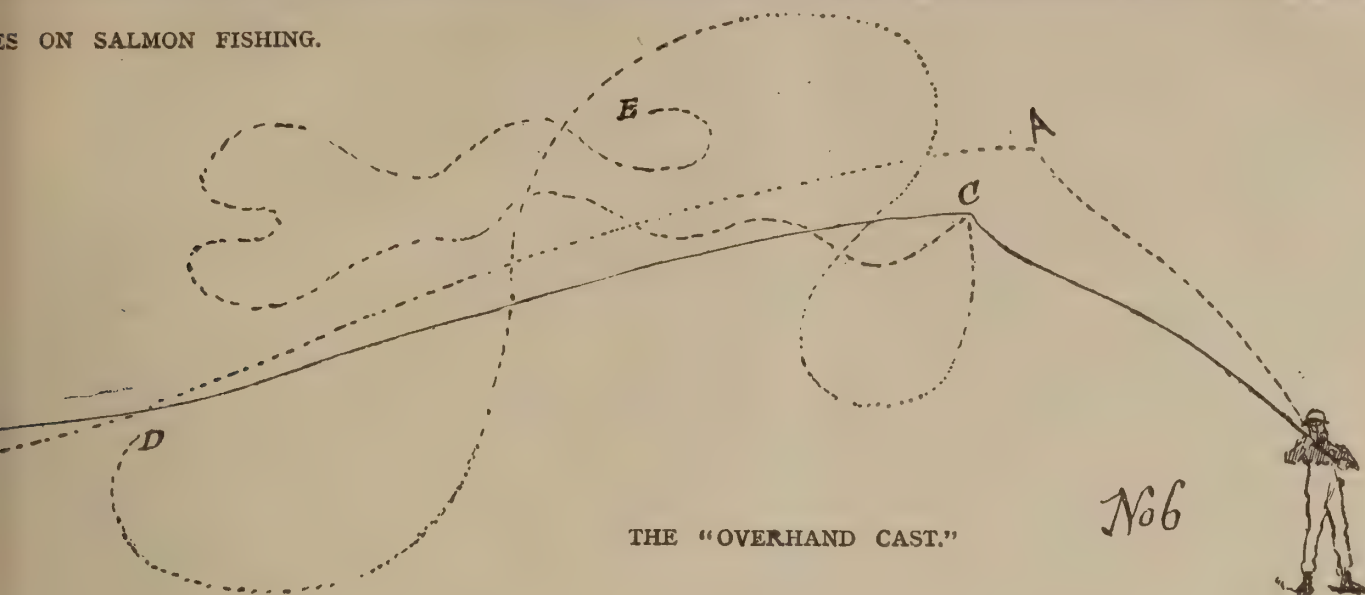
No. 6.—T

The variety of conceptions kindled in our minds on the banks of a salmon river—perhaps for the benefit of others as well as ourselves—are not our favourites through life, but set forces in activity, conducive of valuable results being achieved by the impetus of intellectual reasoning, which would probably take years of toil to work out theoretically in the provincial, or even metropolitan manufactories.

Having said this much of lines, I am naturally led to the subject of reels, perhaps, they had better be noticed in my next article; but a few words on another kindred topic may be serviceable.

When a salmon is first hooked it would be idle to speculate as to the precise treatment that will be required; novelties never will cease to exist; the angler being towed along by events, should deal with facts as they are presented. It needs no special source of information to be assured that

ES ON SALMON FISHING.



THE "OVERHAND CAST."

No 6



Fig 4.

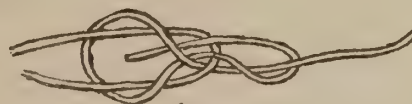


Fig 5.



Fig 2

HAND" CAST.

(See FISHING GAZETTE, Feb. 16, 1884.)

plenty of urgent matter for consideration, and probably I am not far wrong in asserting that the first cause for anxiety will proceed from "The leap life." The movements and intentions of the fish will be involved in obscurity; its subtle opposition and fits of convulsion may eventually terminate, its broad tail alone be the means of hastening its own destruction, unless the opportunity of "making a closer acquaintance" is lost by any mismanagement of

THE GAFF.

In the absence of all statistics, I very much doubt if there are many more unbecoming, or "vexatious misses," in Ireland than in Scotland, though the country varies in *modus operandi*.

When it is necessary to bring this indispensable instrument into operation, the best place to aim at is beneath the gills; but if time for consideration is afforded, and you understand the business, "gravel" the fish, leaving the gaff in the sheath. There are many of our pools with edges of gradually sloping gravel or sand, the most fashionable side of the river to fish from, and where the gaff is scarcely ever required. I can call to mind but very few instances in which I have wanted it at these catches, when the fish has run above me. Heavy salmon (I believe I have said) sometimes head up stream, and the moment they turn down, you should encourage the pace by showing the butt in right-down good earnest, running at the same time if you can, when you will lug the fish well out of the water on to the sand, and win a success with comparative ease. The more rapidly the salmon comes towards you the less chance of failure. Two or three minutes often settles the question then and saves an hour, which might be better employed for the general good of the Frail (Fig. 2). Still, this is a somewhat hazardous experiment to recommend to the uninitiated.

The best contrivance I know for carrying the gaff will be observed in the illustrations, but considering it such an important improvement, I call your attention to Fig. 5. With it, you "have the property of a hidden treasure," which is never in the way. This modern arrangement has a reversible handle in case of accident, and also other convenient advantages. It is supplied by Mr. Bernard, Piccadilly.

Salmon fishermen habitually hoard up an accumulation of vital force, which makes the step from knowing to doing. They never cast a fly without being equipped for every emergency. Now when the gaff is really wanted, remember there must be no tinkering, as genial plumbers say, but a thorough good job must be made with it, and that without any delay. Some day the angler may have means of extraction "by a more excellent way"; however, the fish has to be taken out of the wet somehow; it must not be "vexatiously missed," and left to watch that broad smile of self-satisfaction suddenly become saddened by a look of blank despair, which, but a moment before had animated the features—(excellent illustration of the brevity of human happiness)—while he racks his imagination in subjunctive possibilities, as to what "might," "could," "would," "should," or "ought" to have been done.

Every novice has something to say on piscatorial implements; but the gaff is an entirely new tool to most of them. Let him take notice of each and every event in angling as they transpire, creating a store of wholesome knowledge, which will be sure to come in useful some day. He may rest assured that in using the gaff, it is perfectly immaterial—at least, in my opinion—whether the upper or the under stroke is adopted; choose whichever is the most convenient, whichever seems the most sure; never lance without plenty of confidence and assurance that the gut or line will not be entangled; drag the fish to land in, not cut of the water, and tap him with the life-preserver at once.

One cannot paint every incident in gaffing, and it would be almost impossible to legislate for the ever-varying cases, without a touch of apathy. It would be well for every fisherman to forge his own key for unlocking unwritten rules; and while busily engaged in the manufacture, he should take especial care not to overlook that salmon constantly vindicate, and fight like grim death to maintain the motto, "*Dum spero spiro*."

Every gentleman who has ascended to salmon fishing has an idea more or less correct of the

"OVERHAND" CAST.

It is the most famous, yet the most fatiguing of all. First favourite in the start, it displays a prominent part in the race; and it is one which represents the largest field, favouring the less gifted members of the profession, always found in the majority; however, most of us have probably ascertained that our ingenuity depends a good deal upon the material resources.

The inherent desires for constant knowledge and also for fame, so usual with the well-constituted mind of the student, cannot, I think, be other than symptoms of hopes, which, as his zest for the sport increases, will most certainly be gratified. To the voice of Nature, the bluntest sense can hardly fail to listen; therefore, when this cast is useless, one must be dissatisfied.

I need not repeat the remarks in No. 1 article, relating to the preliminary precaution for the sake of the top joint of the rod—illustrated in Fig. 1.

One of the commonest errors is in placing the wrong foot first. If the right side is nearer to the water, the left foot should be advanced, not only to facilitate the left hand being well over to the right side to avoid working the rod slantingly, but also to avert unnecessary exertion.

I doubt if the word *violent* is in the piscatorial lexicon; but if so, for once I may say that the line should whistle through the air violently, applying the least possible strength for the accomplishment.

Acts of virtue ripen into habits, but erroneous vigour—so constantly witnessed in the innocent, attended with no results other than fatigue fortifying despondency—is not only injurious to oneself and one's tackle, but is uncommonly difficult to forget, to overcome, and to repress. When the fault lies not with them, but in the gear, the untrained cannot by their unaided intelligence detect the cause or provide the cure; in fact, it requires a good judge to decide.

This cast should be commenced with a very short line, and the distance increased as proficiency is attained. In making the long, narrow, oval—not semi-circular—sweep right-handed, the rod should barely decline to the right in ascent, and must not decline to the left when it descends. Indeed, the nearer the course of the rod when raised, to its course in descent, the straighter and more intact will the line be laid upon the water. A slight pause must be allowed at the termination of the upward motion (see No. 6), so that the line may be nearly extended before it is propelled. The letters A. B. indicate the position of the rod and line when the former is very lisson; the latter must not be jerked, and the fly should be kept travelling; the

arms should swing together in the backward and forward motion, which is a strenuous combination of brachial and wrist power.

Struggling and stooping is an exceptionally undignified offence, exciting, perhaps, sympathy from the verdant observer, or possible hurrahs from plebeian spectators. Laudation invested with the varnish of this society, though the acme of praise, may flush one with false renown; such "festive superstition" would, however, be misleading, for fame can be no guarantee of stability, and sentiment fails to propitiate up.

When the line is too light, it will be stayed in the retreating transit and flutter in the air (C.E., No. 5); when it is too heavy, it will sphericize (if I may coin the word), drop short behind (C.D., No. 6), and that would curtail its flight after propulsion.

The line may be well matched to the action of the rod, but the elegance of its progress would be considerably blighted if there are any imperfections in the treble or single gut attached to it. The angler should be provided with heavy and light traces, and even his whimsical wishes or exacting tastes can be gratified by Mr. Ramsbottom, Market Street, Manchester, who possesses a magnificent stock. Salmon gut is an article which claims precedence in importance; our fate generally depends upon "the single." It should be rolled and tied up tight in unused washleather. "In action," one yard and a half length of single is ample; indeed, three feet is enough. The treble and single may be united by loops, if these are neatly made, but the former trace should be three yards, and married to the line (I prefer the plaited because they are free from knots); shellac varnish should not be applied here on the whipping silk, as it causes a "knuckle" at the extremities after a little use. A pill of cobbler's wax is all that is wanted, and a little dissolved in spirits of wine can be painted over the binding after a week's wear.

In adjusting the fly to the single gut, the knot (fig. 3) by Col. Locke or Major Traherne (I am not sure which) will be found preferable to any other.

The other representation (fig. 4)—an Irish dodge—is not so simple to tie or untie, but either are unquestionably better than looping small flies, because they fish better. As regards single gut, I find the following remarkable record in my juror's notes of Mr. Ramsbottom's Murcia Gut, which he exhibited at the "Fisheries." Four separate lengths tested—dry—with the steel-yard, registered; one, 12½ lb., two, 11½ lb., three, 12½ lb., four, 12½ lb., and were tied with the figure-of-eight knot. Mr. Bernard, Piccadilly, has also a few splendid hanks.

A word or two on dress may be interposed. A judicial magnate, or other high official may require robes of silk to support his office; he may be ever so competent, but it is just possible his abilities would be doubted, his influence shaken, if the "outside" were slovenly, unpollished, or disordered. Salmon anglers only ask for the silk of solace, for—touching extravagance—it has been said that, dress drains cellars dry and keeps larders lean. True words. However much the damask of docility may lend encouragement to the noble pastime, by all means let our drapery of dress be neither rich nor gaudy. Why should not the uniform be as singular and suited to fishermen, as that at Badminton is to the excellent M.F.H.

A top hat in an outrigger is almost as odious as a long white waterproof reflecting its wretched rays over a catch.

Art, at manufactories, has been sliding along so slowly in the "woollen way";—so gradual, almost imperceptible are her transitions, that, it is only in the last year or so we have adopted the convenient and comfortable coat supplied by Mr. Shingleton, 60, New Bond Street; and the worthy waterproof, which is equally necessary, by Mr. George Corling, 125, Regent Street. Nature, like history, has her ironical moods sometimes, and though we hail showers (but not hail, in which case the angler would take his own hook and mizzle), we should be prepared for them. The new wading socks, knitted close, with the softest web—everlasting wear, by Mr. Bernard, Piccadilly, and Mr. Tacon, of 277, High Holborn.

We now come to the

"GOVERNOR'S" CAST.

In wide open rivers, where the strongholds of the enemy can only be attacked at long range, this cast has established a reputation, so fabulous, that it might well be called the "General," for it is accredited with having command over the whole "line." The position taken up by the attacking force is so clearly set forth in the illustration that a short extract from "The Officers' Manual" will be sufficient.

The upper part of the prop A. by the "Private" in mufti, should be cut nice and round, and a small staple with a narrow passage filed through it to admit an elastic band, should be hammered in at the back close to the top.

The band should not be twisted in ringing it over the prop, and through the slit in the staple. Now hook the fly through the band and pose as illustrated. Get steady, before dropping the point of the rod still lower behind, so that the line nearly touches the ground in the act of making the vertical thrash to propel the fly, which must be done without intermission or hesitation. The elastic bands must not be too stout; but if too thin, two or more can be used if they are the same size. A mop handle makes a good prop; it is merely pushed into the ground and fixed firmer by the string to the tent peg; two of which will be required if the catch extends far down the river, or the stage can be shifted.

The indiarubber bands, though apparently all the same size, vary in strength, so occasionally there must be some misfortune.

The fisherman need not imagine when he aims at perfection, that, it is lost by an unfortunate cast; for if fortune has at one time the better of activity, activity may afterwards recover the advantage. Let him therefore cherish the assurance of overcoming, he may then overcome the fear of failure; whereas, he who is not confident will not only probably lose hope, in steering through the swelling tide to success, but may even lose his way altogether, in the dark deep ocean of Fate!

A NOTE ON GRAYLING.

By DR. BRUNTON.

(Read to the Piscatorial Society on Monday night, January 21st, 1884.)

IN the current numbers of the principal angling journals—viz., *FISHING GAZETTE*, *Field*, *Bell's Life*, and *Land and Water*—the river reporters, in remarking upon the fact that the grayling are not to be taken on the surface, but only by mid-water and bottom-fishing, state that “the opinion seems to have been formed by some experienced professionals that the fish keep on the bottom for the purpose of eating the trout and salmon ova.”

The words here quoted were read by me as I travelled on Saturday morning last by train to Winchester, intent upon grayling fishing.

Can this opinion be correct, and can it explain the reason why for the past month so few grayling have been taken by anglers there, fishing with the artificial fly?—were natural questions for me to ask myself. At first thought it occurred to me that there might be some truth in the reporter's statement; but the longer and more I considered the matter the less credence did I give it. My experience of former years certainly militated against their expressed opinion. I myself have caught many dozens of grayling, and seen as many caught by others during this very period of the year when trout and salmon are busy spawning, and yet in none was the least indication found of their having been feeding upon trout ova.

Nevertheless, as it was possible that my observations might be so far faulty, I determined to apply crucial tests.

Saturday morning was dull, hazy, and windless, yet withal very fine. The prospects of a good day's fishing were apparently very good. The condition of the river was clear and low, the atmosphere was very mild and spring-like, but there was not a vestige of insect life on the wing, although the other surroundings were quite in harmony with such a fine morning. I began at 10.30, and at my first cast caught a lovely trout, fat and firm, and perfectly coloured: it was at once returned. From that time until 2.30, with the exception of a few minutes occupied for lunch, I fished up, down, and across, and in every way I could devise, with floating fly, wet fly, sunken fly, and in turn with various kinds of seasonable flies, without a rise or touch from any fish. I began to think that the river reporter's opinion was only too true, and that the grayling were devoting themselves to a luxurious treat of trout ova, and that they had been doing so for some weeks past. Certainly those who fished the river had very little, if any, sport for a month past—scarce a grayling would rise.

During these weeks numerous trout have been busy spawning, and especially on Saturday I watched them up and down the river on their hillocks, but there were no attendant grayling ready to pick up any loose or exposed ova. So intent were they that the sight of a “sample of man” did not terrify them. Fearless duty had evidently taken the place of shyness and timidity. It was a most interesting sight to watch those fish, so busy and so determined.

Since writing this paper, a gentleman, who is a pisciculturist and owns a trout fishery on the Test, informed me that a few days ago he observed a male and female trout in very shallow water commencing spawning operations. Desirous to obtain some ova for hatching by artificial process, he instructed his keeper to stake these fish. This gentleman entered the water above, and the keeper, with a landing-net in his hand, below. They mutually moved towards the fish, which, intent on spawning, either bereft for the time of timidity, or too eager to notice the approach of an enemy, were easily lifted out by the landing-net. The female yielded 1,300 ova in perfect condition.

At half-past two the clouds separated, and the sun broke through the haze for a few minutes. That blink of sunshine was all that was requisite to set the grayling on the move. There was scarcely a fly to be seen; an odd hare's ear dun appeared now and again, yet with an artificial of the same kind I managed in the next half hour to take four fish weighing 4 lb. One of the grayling was perhaps the liveliest fellow of his kind I ever dealt with; so game was he that fifteen minutes elapsed before I had him landed. Now these fish were all taken in a part of the stream abundant in trout hillocks, and if they desired to feast on trout ova no doubt they had plenty of opportunity. I carefully examined each fish on capture, and afterwards as carefully examined by dissection the whole of their alimentary canals. I could not discover the slightest trace of ova; but there was an abundance of silicated caddis and caddis remains, pieces of shells and chalk, innumerable water shrimps, and a very scanty portion of disintegrated flies. Three different factors, in my opinion, must be taken into account as explanatory of the non-surface feeding.

1. Irregularity of the weather.
2. Absence of flies.
3. The great abundance of caddis and water shrimp, due to the mildness of the winter.

It is scarcely fair to assume that because grayling are not rising to take flies that they are feeding on trout ova, simply because trout and salmon are spawning at this particular time. If this is true of grayling in the Dove, surely it must be true of other rivers; but one has only to scan the other accounts in the same papers, and there you will see that grasshopper-fishing or bottom-fishing is almost the only method employed with success. And is this like ova eating? No. What resemblance is there between a trout's egg and an imitation grasshopper? None whatever! Yet the same reporters speak of fly-fishing on the Wye and Derwent at the present season on “fly-fishing days.” Is there no trout spawn there? Yes, plenty, and yet the fish rise sometimes to the fly.

The reporter well says “on fly-fishing days,” for the bad weather has

upset all the sport. Grayling are very sensitive to weather changes. When a storm is on they retire under the weeds or banks for cover, and there feed on caddis and other bottom food. Grayling love quiet, steady weather for fly-catching; stormy and uncertain weather upsets their calculations, and the fish, finding no flies out, become disappointed and retire in search of other food—they will not trouble to seek for the uncertain. Besides, the bad weather drives the flies from the land, the rain beats them down and blows them off the river, and there is no inducement for them to “come out,” by reason of absence of sunshine and presence of general moisture. These reasons are more satisfactory, to my way of thinking, in accounting for the refusal of grayling to rise.

I do not know that I am prepared to say that a hungry grayling may not eat ova; in fact, the reporters say it does; but to say that at the present time they are devoting *all* their attention to devouring ova is, in my opinion, quite a mistake. No doubt trout eat grayling ova and fry if they catch them, for about the time grayling begin to spawn trout are most ravenous; besides, the greatest enemy to the ova of their own species is the trout itself. On the other hand, there is no particular inducement for grayling to eat trout and salmon ova, unless the ova are as attractive to them as to other fish—which I very much doubt; besides, the grayling is at this very time filling up with its own roe, is in the stage preparatory to spawning, and, consequently, is not so very hungry as to go out of the way in special search for ova. My own observations, as well as those of others communicated to me during the past few weeks, have been ample, and are quite in accordance with my own views, and against the excuse of ova eating. I quite agree with “those who assert that the present has been the worst grayling season for some years.” The past few weeks have been exceptionally bad. I can only account for it by atmospheric influences affecting the conditions of insect life on land and insect and fish life in water.

Since the 19th January, we have been again visited with the usual weekly Saturday cyclone, and on other days with unsettled weather. I did not venture out till Saturday last, the 9th. I left London in fine, quiet weather, only to find, to my disgust, that the nearer I approached Winchester, the harder and gustier howled the wind, which, blowing gently on the outskirts of the town, gradually increased in force till 10.30, when it reached a whole gale, accompanied an hour after by pelting rain. From 10 till 4 there was not a natural rise on the water, though in the course of the day I caught three trout with the “February red” and one grayling on a male “March brown.” The trout were at once returned, but the grayling was duly examined on capture, and after by dissection: there was no trace of trout ova to be found; but caddis and shrimps formed the contents of the stomach. Further, the keeper told me that, in the course of netting the river for pike a few days before, many grayling were taken, and at once returned, and that in handling these fish there was no sign of their having been feeding on trout ova. How are we to explain the non-surface feeding of the grayling in the Itchen? Certainly not by their ova feeding for some weeks past, for there is no evidence of that. I think the proper reason is to be found in what I have said above.

J. B.

EXTRAORDINARY SALMON ADVENTURE.

(From the *Standard*, November 5, 1866.)

MR. COLIN WOOD, one of the best rod-fishers in Scotland, succeeded a few days ago in hooking a salmon, considered to be the largest that has ever been hooked in the North Esk. The skilful manoeuvres of the angler were brought into play, but hour after hour wore away, and still the fish was as strong as ever: the moon rose and set, and still the fish was master of the situation. All arts had been tried, but the enemy was too wary. Mr. Wood had held his rod and kept his tackle fast for ten and a half hours, but the work proved too much for him, and he relinquished his rod, with great reluctance, into the hands of Mr. A. Bower, in order to allow of a little repose.

Subsequently, Mr. Wood got the rod into his hand again that he might have the honour of landing him, while another party went for the clip. But all these preparations were of no avail. The salmon returned to his old abode, and disputed the victory for long hours. As gentlemen after gentlemen came on the ground in the morning they were astounded to hear that such a contest had been going on all night. At nine o'clock there was still no appearance of the fish surrendering, and several meetings of rod-fishers were held to consider what should be done in the circumstances. But Master Salmon struggled manfully, and baffled all the combinations that were formed against him, until one o'clock, when he made a clear run into the stream, and the hook came out of his mouth with a piece of the fish attached. For nineteen hours and forty-five minutes, with the exception of one brief hour, did the salmon contend with one of the keenest and best fishers in the three kingdoms, and, to the great mortification of Mr. Wood, eventually escaped. The fish was twice or thrice seen, and by men well able to judge he was supposed to be about 60 lb. weight.

Mr. Kelson's next article will refer to the “Underhand” and “Wind” Casts, with remarks on Flies, Reels, &c.

ERRATA.—For “congested” in the “Switch” analysis read *congested*. For Hope makes a seeming “possibility” give way, in last sentence of “Flip” article, read, a seeming impossibility.

THE DEE, ABERDEENSHIRE.

(FIRST ARTICLE.)

"We breasted the billows of Dee's rushing tide,
And heard at a distance the Highlander's song."

—BYRON.

CONCURRENTLY with the opening of the season—the spring fishing—on the river Dee, the idea intrudes itself upon us that it may not be uninteresting or void of advantage to those of your readers who, for the first time, are now inhaling the invigorating air in the valley of our hill-girt northern river, to acquire some information regarding the flies hitherto most in vogue, and usually deemed the best killers during the early spring months. In order that we may not appear to dogmatise, we must hedge ourselves by admitting that though in particular instances and localities the flies we are to describe may perhaps have been outvalued, yet, in general, in the way of being serviceable, they have fully maintained their well-merited popularity. Before proceeding to make an adaptive classification, which we consider the most intelligible as we'll as useful manner of bringing them under notice, just one remark is necessary, and that is, that these flies are, with a single exception, what is usually termed "plain flies."

Condition of the river, time of day, nature of the weather—to these we think it very necessary that particular attention should be given; otherwise, such sport as we could wish any anglers acting according to our theory of adaptation to circumstances, may not be quite adequately realised. We say so because we have carefully studied the subject, amply proved it in our own experience, and received such an amount of authentic information as could not but serve to confirm it in almost every particular.

At 9 o'clock on a bright, almost cloudless morning—not by any means an exception of late years in February, rather the contrary—we proceed to the river, find it in fair volume and perfect in colour. The casts are selected—one of us chooses the stream, depth say $3\frac{1}{2}$ to $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet; the other prefers the pool, average depth probably 7 feet. After thus disposing of ourselves, the hook-books are opened, the flies scanned, and a selection made. General appearances combine to prompt a trial of the "Gardener" on the stream—its colour looks suitable; and accordingly a 2 or $2\frac{1}{2}$ inch long shank "Gardener" is tried, and with success; but, for the sake of illustration, we will say the reverse, in order that a 2 or $2\frac{1}{2}$ inch "Gordon" may be substituted. Meanwhile, the pool has been carefully gone over with the "Ackroyd" $2\frac{1}{2}$ inch—only one fish showed, came short. Waiting to try him with the same fly wastes time; the "Rintoul" $2\frac{1}{2}$ inch long shank goes on. Carefully and gradually it is brought toward the spot where he showed himself a few minutes ago; the fly is right above him now—a tug, a somersault, whir, there he goes—bravo! Assuming that the day keeps bright and fine throughout, such flies as we have named are certain to insure good results till three or four o'clock in the afternoon in February, and later on proportionately in March and April, if the river is in anything like its normal condition, and fish fairly plentiful. Almost on a par with the Gardener, Gordon, Ackroyd, and Rintoul, and to be alternated with these, are the "tartan," "red-winged heron," "grey heron," "Glentanar," and "Balmoral." When it is almost or entirely cloudless overhead we hold the following as likely to be used with most advantage, namely, the "Ackroyd," "Gardener," "Glentanar," "Balmoral," and "Rintoul." When fleecy clouds are casting their shadows on the water we think the general appearance of the "grey heron" and "tartan," in particular, more in harmony with the nature of the light, &c., than any of the others. The "red-winged heron" and "Gordon" suit well from an hour to half an hour before dusk; in fact, a good large "Gordon," say $2\frac{1}{2}$ inch, often kills as well as an "eagle" when daylight has almost disappeared. Indeed, we have frequently got a hold of him when we could not see where the fly was lighting. Though in our own experience we have not been fortunate enough to confirm the statement, we have heard it occasionally stated that the "yellow gaudy" is a very good substitute for the "eagle." Notwithstanding these two substitutes, and the "Gordon" is really a good one, we assign to the grey or white "eagle" the premier position as an evening lure, and rank the white first. When it is almost dark, if fish are plentiful, a pretty large white "eagle," 3 to $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches, is always worth trying before, as Cousin Jonathan says, "wiping up" for the day. Next week we will change in imagination either the weather or the water; meantime, we proceed to describe as best we can some of the less known, by the names we have given them, of the flies above referred to. In adhering strictly to the order in which they are adverted to above, the fly that first comes under our notice is the "Gardener."

"Gardener": tag, silver tinsel and orange floss; tail, a topping and fibres of golden pheasant tippet; body, two turns orange, two turns green, and four turns purple mohair; silver tinsel and gold twist; large topping down the body for hackle; black heron hackle at shoulder; jungle cock feather on either cheek; dark brown turkey wings; black head. "Gordon" (fancy fly): tag, silver thread and yellow floss; tail, a topping and fibres of a pheasant tippet; butt, black ostrich herl; body, one turn orange, three turns claret floss; silver tinsel and gold flatworm; claret hackle; light blue cock hackle at shoulder; under wing, two large golden pheasant tippets on either side, fibres of teal and bustard, golden pheasant tail, blue, red, and yellow swan; jungle cock feather on either cheek, topping over all; blue macaw ribs; black head. "Ackroyd": tag, gold tinsel; tail, a topping and golden pheasant tippet; body, yellow and black mohair in equal proportion; yellow cock hackle over the yellow, black heron hackle over the black; jungle cock feather on either cheek; white or brown turkey wing; black head. "Rintoul": tag, silver tinsel; tail, a topping and fibres of golden pheasant tippet; body, two turns orange and three turns black mohair; silver tinsel and gold twist; black heron hackle down the body; jungle cock feather on either cheek; sand-coloured turkey wing; black head. "Red-winged heron": tag, silver tinsel; tail, fibres of golden pheasant tippet; body, blue and claret mohair equally; silver tinsel; grey heron hackle well through the body; teal at shoulder; very dark turkey wing, the deeper the brown the better; black head. "Grey heron": tag, gold tinsel; tail, a topping and golden pheasant tippet (small); body, orange mohair well picked out; gold tinsel; teal at shoulder; grey heron hackle; mottled turkey wing, brownish tinge; black head. A few of the flies enumerated above, with which anglers may have only a slight acquaintance, will be described in our next notice, along with several others; meantime, further information regarding any of those we have referred to can be had by communicating, through the Editor of this paper, with—

W. M.

HOW MR. JARDINE CATCHES HIS PIKE.

(To the tune of "John Gilpin.")

How does he catch those mighty fish
Of twenty pounds and more,
That when preserved appear like sharks,
For anglers to adore?

His tackle varies not from ours,
His rod, the same may be;
Yet though our baits may be like his,
He takes more fish than we.

His method he will frank explain,
His hooks no secret makes;
Right cautiously he tells us all
The manner of his "takes."

He tells us just the style of trace
To use, and how he strikes
When fishing with his deadly "snap,"
That carries death to pikes.

The "modus operandi" he
So lucidly explains,
That none can miss it who possess
The meanest share of brains.

So rod in hand we sally forth,
Determined as can be
That Mr. J. no more henceforth
Shall catch more fish than we.

Yet though we fish the stream with care
With selfsame hooks and bait,
And leave no likely spot untried,
His luck in vain we wait.

And so, when darkness stops our toil,
We're trudging slowly back;
No mighty capture to record,
But just a three-pound jack.

We fill our glass, our pipe we light,
And then to thinking fall,
And do our best to puzzle out
The reason of it all.

And as we've fished with patient care,
But still with no success,
The blame can scarcely lie with us,
And this is what we guess:

The secret of his mighty takes
Lies not in rod or bait,
Nor yet entirely in his skill
(I though, granted, that is great!)

There's yet a stronger reason why
He far outstrips us all,
And week by week can still record
Some fresh gigantic haul.

For when he takes his rod in hand,
And can of lively dace,
He then betakes himself, I ween,
Unto some private place.

There, 'mid the rushes by the bank,
The fishy giants lie,
With eager eye, in readiness
To pounce upon the fry.

Within such favoured spots he casts
With skilful hand his bait,
To tempt their fishy appetites,
Nor has he long to wait.

For soon from 'neath that reedy bed
Bold "Esox" darts apace,
And hurls himself with open mouth
Upon the glittering dace.

He's firmly hooked—with spinning reel
Away the giant goes;
And dashing madly to and fro,
Some game resistance shows.

"Man versus fish," the strife begins,
Nor need we here relate
How soon, by steady skill subdued,
The monster meets his fate.

Then, Mr. Jardine, here's your health,
And may you never be
Compelled to carry on your sport
In waters such as we

But when you're on the "warpath" next,
May still more pike be caught;
And may you, Mr. Editor,
Enjoy the promised sport.

And though we cannot hope ourselves
Such lordly fish to get,
We'll read with pleasure your success
If told in the GAZETTE.

A COGGESHALL VOLUNTEER.

GEORGE JAMES EATON, of Starkholmes, Matlock-Bath, Derbyshire, respectfully invited Noblemen and Gentlemen to try his standard FLIES for the present season. No flies sent or made up but what he himself has proved sure killers. A trial is all that is required from gentlemen who can fish, to prove whether they may be genuine or not. Patronised by some of the best fishermen of the day. All flies dressed on the best Kendal hooks. Prices Point Flies, 2s. 6d. per Dozen; Dropper Flies, 2s. per Dozen. Orders punctually attended, to—(ADVT.)

THE ANNUAL DINNER OF THE PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

THE annual dinner, which was held at the Holborn Restaurant on Wednesday evening last, was certainly one of the most successful of the half century of annual meetings which the Piscatorial Society has now so nearly enjoyed, it having been established in 1836.

Our readers are many of them familiar with the princely manner in which the proprietors of the Holborn Restaurant cater for their customers. In addition to an excellent and excellently-served dinner, they provide a saloon so extensive, so lofty, and so richly decorated as to be sufficient in itself to lend grace to any entertainment. Festoons of electric incandescent arcs gave a profusion of light of a brilliant and yet soft and steady nature. The chairman of the evening was Charles B. McLaren, Esq., M.P. for Stafford, supported by Daniel Grant, Esq., M.P. for Marylebone, and Mr. Fennings in the vice-chair. There was a strong muster of members and their friends, and although dinner commenced at six o'clock, it was twelve before the last of the 130 guests had departed.

After the loyal toasts had been drunk in the hearty manner characteristic of all loyal anglers, the hon. secretary, Mr. Lander, read some extracts from the "Report," showing that in every way the society was most successful, vigorous, and flourishing. The chairman then gave the toast of the evening, "The Piscatorial Society." He remarked that it would very soon be celebrating its fiftieth anniversary, and there could be no doubt it was at present stronger and more popular than ever. He did not consider the only, or even the chief, end of a society such as this was to give grand dinners and catch fish. (Hear, hear.) No society of this kind could have a higher aim than standing up for anglers' rights. (Applause.) There was, he regretted to say, a tendency in the present day for rich men to buy up sporting rights and close waters to all but their own friends. This was the more to be regretted because there could be no doubt that angling was not only an extremely healthful pursuit, but it was one of the very few recreations left in which the working man could participate. He had often noticed with satisfaction the enthusiasm with which the thousands of working men anglers of Sheffield departed on their fishing excursions. He quoted Izaak Walton to show that a good angler must be quiet, sober, and honest, and inferred that the more our citizens became anglers the better would it be for the State. There was a Bill before the House for giving increased protection to coarse fish, which he felt sure would be found very valuable. Another Bill proposed to deal with the claims of riparian owners on the Thames. Anglers might rely on his doing all in his power to forward their interests—(applause)—and he had noticed in the ante-room before dinner a petition which this society was asking anglers to sign protesting against the encroachments of riparian owners, some of whom quite forgot that while property has its undoubted rights, it also has its undoubted duties, and he could only say he should be most happy to present the petition to the House of Commons, and do his best to further its objects. (Applause.) The position of the Piscatorial Society was a great one, and he was sure from what he had seen that they were well aware that the best way to get anything done was to do it yourself—(hear, hear)—and not to leave others to take the initiative in works which such a society as this could so well perform. (Applause.)

Dr. Brunton, in a few graceful remarks, proposed the toast of the secretary and other officers, and after a capital song by Mr. N. F. Harrison, Messrs. Lander and Fennings acknowledged the toast, and thanked the members for the warm support they received, without which their best efforts would be useless.

The toast of "The Thames Angling Preservation Society" was then proposed by Mr. Daniel Grant, M.P. Mr. Grant said he had been asked by his friend the chairman to attend this dinner of the Piscatorial Society. It had afforded him great pleasure to be present. There could be no question as to the value of the work being done by the Piscatorial, the Thames Angling Preservation Society, and kindred societies. They worked as much for the poor as for the rich. (Hear, hear.) In fact, they secured and protected the rivers for poor anglers who had not the means to do it for themselves. It was in the existence and intelligent union of these societies that they must look for the preservation of their rights and their fishing. (Applause.)

Mr. W. H. Brougham, secretary of the Thames Angling Preservation Society, in replying to this toast, said he had been secretary for twenty-five years. He could assure them the river Thames from Staines to Richmond had never in the whole course of its history been so efficiently protected as it was at the present time. (Hear, hear.) He had noticed, and had abundant opportunity of noticing, the enormous increase in the number of anglers. This made greater exertion necessary to provide them with

sport. He was glad to say that his society had placed over five tons of fine fish into the river last year. They had stopped the deadly night lines; fish were increasing, especially trout. He would tell them of only one instance showing the amount of fish in the river. One of their members, Mr. Blamey, took 120 lb. weight of barbel and bream in one day. Another item they would be glad to hear was that arrangements had been made for keeping the swans off the river and the spawning beds for three months. (Applause.) He had been angling among the City companies recently for funds, and had received the greatest kindness and handsome subscriptions from several of them.

The next toast, that of "The National Fish Culture Association," was proposed by Mr. Thomas Huggett. He need, he thought, say very little to commend this toast to them: They all knew how necessary it was that fish culture and the increase of our fish should go hand in hand with our exertions in catching them. It was a fact that in spite of some most praiseworthy and successful individual exertions in pisciculture we were far behind some foreign nations. He would call upon Mr. R. B. Marston, Editor of the FISHING GAZETTE, to respond to this toast, as he knew that gentleman took a deep interest in the subject, and had been greatly instrumental in getting the National Fish Culture Association established.

Mr. R. B. Marston said he felt much honoured as well as pleased at being called upon to respond to this toast. He never lost an opportunity of going fishing if he could help it, and he intended in what he had to say to angle for a very fine specimen—viz., the Piscatorial Society. He hoped not only the society as a body, but the members individually, would join the N. F. C. A. He explained the objects of the association, referred to the need there was for it, and the good it could do if it was well supported. Mr. Huggett had called their attention to one of the objects of the association—viz., to encourage and assist in the stocking of all public and other available fish for the recreation and benefit of the community. He thought the clubs would see it was their interest to aid a society which had such an object as this. The Fish Culture Association were most fortunate in having the Marquis of Exeter as President, and Ed. Birkbeck, Esq., M.P., as vice-president. (Applause.) He referred to the position the association would hold at the coming Health Exhibition at South Kensington. They were chiefly indebted to Mr. Birkbeck for this, and in another direction he might mention Mr. Birkbeck was also working for anglers. (Applause.) They were aware that there was now before the house a Bill for the further protection of fish other than salmon in fresh waters, an amendment of the Freshwater Fisheries Act in fact. This Bill, as brought in by Mr. Hibbert, was very valuable; but if Mr. Birkbeck's additional amendments in committee were agreed to, it would be still more valuable. He had not had time yet to carefully go into the amendments, but by far the most important as far as they as anglers were concerned was Mr. Birkbeck's proposal to grant power to establish Boards of Conservators for coarse fish districts. (Applause.) He need not point out to them what an immense gain this would be, as it would give us the power to protect our coarse fish just as salmon and trout are now protected, and put it out of the power of poachers, directly the fence months were over, to sweep out the fish with their nets. He considered this proposal of immense importance. There was another matter, and a very sad one, he would just refer to, and that was they would all hear with deep regret of the sudden death of Mr. Reuben Wood. He felt that as many of the members of the Piscatorial Society had met the genial old American angler, both at the Exhibition and elsewhere, it would be a graceful tribute to his memory if they sent a vote of condolence to his family. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. T. R. Sachs, in a pleasant and kindly little speech, now proposed the toast of "The Press." He lamented the absence of Mr. Francis Francis, and the loss of Mr. Frank Buckland,

Mr. Senior, in replying to the toast of the Press, made certainly the best speech of the evening, touching gracefully and lightly on the duty of the press to anglers and the duty of anglers to the press. He caused many a good laugh by his quaint pictures of the greedy anglers who, after having a big take, expected a big paragraph about it, but refused to tell him (Mr. Senior) where the fish had been taken. (Laughter.) His friend Mr. Marston, down at the other end of the room there, had lately begun a crusade against angling slang, and proposed to wage war on such expressions as "spotted beauty" instead of "trout," and "rodster" instead of "angler." For his part, he was not so sure that a little slang was not both useful and harmless at times. For instance he felt after he had been writing the word "angler" forty times in an article, that it was a positive relief and welcome change to put "rodster" in place of it for a time. (Laughter.) This reminded him of a stroll he had recently along the banks of the Lea, when he met one of those slithery-looking cadger-like customers, who are still occasionally to be met with, seated on a green box slaughtering

undersized fish. In reply to a remonstrance, this gentleman said, "I suppose you call yourself an angler—I am only a sanguinary roach-snigger." (Laughter.)

The Vice-Chairman having proposed the health of "The Chairman," the latter replied, thanking the society for the honour they had done him, in asking him to preside over them that evening. He referred again to the fact that he would always be willing to help them as he had done in some measure in the case of the Steam Launch Act—(hear, hear)—and concluded by saying that though he could hardly expect to hold the position of their chairman again, if they would reserve him a seat at their next annual meeting nothing but most urgent matters would prevent his attending to enjoy their company again. (Applause.)

Mr. Goodger proposed the "Vice-Chairman," Mr. Fennings pointing out that in Mr. F. they had a most capable and courteous officer, always ready to give his time and energy to further their interests. Mr. Fennings replied, and then the toast of "The Visitors" was proposed by Mr. Lemann, who said if they had enjoyed their evening as he hoped they had he trusted many of them would be induced to become members. Mr. Woodman, as a visitor, responded, saying he thought he could say truly that the visitors had had a most enjoyable evening, and he hoped many of them would join. Angling was a delightful recreation, but a very uncertain one. However, he thought they might all, both visitors and members, always depend on a good bite at this annual dinner. (Laughter.)

The majority of the guests then departed, though at least an hour later a worthy Scotch Medicus might have been seen vainly endeavouring to "square" the small circle left, and get them to accompany him home "just to have half-a-minute's chat—and one Scotch." Not to-night, Doctor!

During the evening Mr. King presided efficiently at the pianoforte, and the songs given by Signor Carlo Grassi, Mr. T. N. Harrisson, Mr. Heeney, Mr. Thomson, &c., added greatly to the success of the evening.

DEATH OF REUBEN WOOD.

IT is with deep regret that I have to print these words:—

"Syracuse, New York, Feb. 17, 1884.

"DEAR SIR,—My father died of paralysis of the heart last night suddenly. Since his acquaintance with you he often referred to the many kind attentions you had shown him. Will write you at length soon. Yours very truly,

"R. B. Marston, Esq. GEO. B. WOOD."

It was only the other day I had a cheery note from him inclosing some mallard feathers for making May flies. I know many an angler in this country will feel sad at hearing genial, jolly, lovable "Uncle Reub" has gone to his long rest. During his stay in this country as superintendent of the angling department of the United States exhibit at the Fisheries Exhibition, he never failed to make friends of all who came in contact with him. It will always be a melancholy pleasure to me to think that I was able and delighted to do him many little services, and I shall never forget the enthusiasm and almost boy-like glee with which he enjoyed a fishing trip with me to the Kennet, at Hungerford. Everything delighted him; the quiet beauty of the scenery, the picturesque old town, the lovely river—he said he felt as if he were "away back" in the land of his forefathers when this country was their country. He would stand for hours on the old bridge watching the trout and marvelling at their "cuteness." Our system of "dry-fly" fishing pleased and astonished him greatly, and he told me he meant to try it on some wary old American trout he was acquainted with. Then he would show us some of his long casting with a split-cane rod. Mr. Collins, the hon. sec. of the club, was quite enchanted with him, and invited him down again in the May-fly season. How sorry he will be to hear the dear old gentleman will never revisit us, as he so often expressed the hope of doing. As I write, I have before me a capital portrait of him, which he gave me at the FISHING GAZETTE Tournament, at the Welsh Harp. I shall have it engraved to publish in the GAZETTE as a memento of one of the kindest, truest, most genial, and open-hearted anglers who ever lived. Many references to him have been published in the GAZETTE, especially last year; and if we in this country, who only knew him so short a time, feel his loss so keenly, what must those home friends of his feel—his family, and that wide circle of

acquaintances who were proud to call him friend? In parting with him, when he was leaving for England, they told him they could hardly bring themselves to let him go—that they would only "lend" him for a time to represent Uncle Sam in the old country; and with what genuine enthusiasm they welcomed him back. In Reuben Wood I feel I have lost a personal and dear friend, and I am sure every one of my readers who became acquainted with him will say the same, and unite with me in expressing to his family our deep sympathy with them in the loss they have sustained. Since getting the above-quoted note from his son, Mr. Geo. B. Wood, I have received from him a copy of the *Syracuse Courier* of February 18, with the following obituary notice:—

REUBEN WOOD.

Saturday evening the community was startled by the news current upon the streets that Mr. Reuben Wood, an old and highly-respected citizen, had died suddenly at his residence, No. 76, South Salina Street, of paralysis of the heart. Investigation proved that the sad news was only too true. Mr. Wood had been feeling unwell for some time past, complaining considerably of pains in the region of the heart. But it was supposed that the trouble was not of a very serious nature. Saturday eve Mr. Wood ate supper at the usual hour with members of his family, and about 7 o'clock went downstairs to his store. Shortly afterward, he said to one of the ladies working in the store that he felt unwell, and had a very severe pain in the region of his heart. He was advised to go upstairs again and lie down, and started to do so. After he had left the store to go upstairs, word was sent that he was feeling unwell, and Mr. George B. Wood, his son, went to meet him. Mr. Wood came upstairs the back way, and just as he had entered the dining-room was met by his son George, who noticed that his father appeared to stagger, and ran to his assistance, catching him just as he was about to fall to the floor. He was immediately conveyed to an inner room, and Doctors Sheldon and Candee summoned to attend him. Everything possible was done for him, but to no purpose. He at times seemed to be in great distress, and death finally came to his relief at 8.15 p.m. Mr. Wood was conscious till the last, and his last words were those of prayer.

Reuben Wood was born in Greenbush, N.Y., December 22nd, 1822. In 1850 he went to Pittsfield, Mass., where he remained about one year, returning to Greenbush, moving to this city in 1852, where he has since resided, being engaged in the fishing tackle business. Starting in life with only a common school education, he shaped out his own course in life and was a self-made man, conducting his business affairs in the most thorough manner, and being strictly conscientious and honourable in all his dealings. Mr. Wood was president of the Onondaga County Fishing Association, and was widely known throughout the country, and especially celebrated in piscatorial sports, having repeatedly taken prizes in fly casting, being for some years the champion fly caster of the country. Early last year he received an appointment from Prof. S. F. Baird, of the Smithsonian Institute, as a member of the American Staff in charge of the exhibit of light fishing tackle of America at the International Fisheries Exhibition, which was held in London, England. Mr. Wood left the city April 5th, and returned in August. While in London, Mr. Wood took part in the fly casting at the Tournament, and was the winner of many of the prizes. He was also an active member and honorary president of the Sumner Corps in this city, and was a member and trustee of the First Baptist Church. A wife and four children survive him:—Mr. George B. Wood; Mrs. C. C. Francis, Pittsfield, Mass.; Mr. Charles W. Wood, member of the senior class of Williams College; and Miss Mabel L. Wood, of this city. He was a brother of Mrs. Allen Butler, and Ira Wood, ex-chief of the fire department of Syracuse.

Mr. Wood was widely known and universally esteemed for his many excellent qualities of head and heart. His nature was a genial and kindly one, and all who knew him entertained an affection for him that was unmeasured. He was an enthusiastic lover of fishing, and was an expert in the art. Some years ago, he formed the acquaintance of Joseph Jefferson, the eminent comedian, who is an enthusiastic fisherman. Between the two gentlemen thereafter a warm friendship existed. Mr. Wood used Mr. Jefferson's rod when he won the prize for casting the fly, at New York, two years ago. R. B. MARSTON.

HALF A MILLION PERCH.

IN the report of the Reading Angling Association, which is given in our columns this week, will be found what to us is most gratifying testimony to the value of the simple "Lund" box, the use of which was introduced into this country by us.

MESSRS. S. ALLCOCK AND CO. AT CALCUTTA.

WE understand Messrs. S. Allcock and Co., of Redditch, have been awarded a gold medal and first-class certificate at the Calcutta Exhibition, thus taking the highest award.

THE POLLUTION OF THE AVON AT WARWICK.

THE action by the Warwick Town Council against the Leamington Corporation for polluting the river Avon was to be heard at the last Warwick County Court, but by mutual consent it has been adjourned for three months. As the Leamington Corporation are carrying out works for removing any ground for complaint, the probabilities are that the matter will be satisfactorily settled without the necessity of submitting it to a court of law.

ANGLING FOR SALMON.

By GEO. M. KELSON.

*(Fourth and Final Article, with Illustrations Nos. 7, 8.)**

THE "WIND CAST," THE "UNDERHAND CAST," AND SOME GENERAL NOTES.

A BRIGHT, intelligent lad with flashing, fiery eyes, the third little annual of a family of young fly-dressers, half at work, and more at play, blowing bladders with soapsuds, in which were hundreds of hackles, asks, in a voice ringing out with careless, happy harmony, for a wrinkle or two in the fly article. Each of his brothers and sisters are engaged with their various allotments—one, "doubling the dyed" with astonishing rapidity, a dodge only a week or two before imported into the institution; another, preparing bodies, brightening tinsel and cutting it into lengths, while others are selecting toppings and shreading tippets. The "four dozen daily" must be whipped up; indeed, life seemed to depend upon the result.

My precocious pupil, I venture to assume, has at least never embarked money nor brains in any undertaking; he had been to the National School certainly, where the sober practicalities were inappropriate and utterly unsuited; the alphabet, an entirely foreign language apparently; and although he could pass a good examination in marbles, he had literally learnt nothing—in fact, when asked the simple questions (1) "Who was Esau?" replied: "Esau was the writer of a book of fables, who sold his copyright to a chemist for a bottle of potash." And (2) "Who was Cardinal Wolsey?" "Cardinal Wolsey was the Member of Parliament who laboured at legislation for the Siamese twins; afterwards he was the General in the Crimea who telegraphed to Oliver Cromwell, 'If I'd done as much for myself as I have for you, I'd be better off than I am now.' And finally, he invented the circulation of the blood, and died in frightful agony."

This is a sample of the "Fancy" which I have endeavoured to portray as earning their daily bread by the misdirected manipulation of seal's fur, feather, and hackle.

Really it did not occur to me that I was addressing whole families of perhaps similar "stern stuff" evincing an equal interest; therefore, would it not be unpardonable for any words of mine to cause these innocents to sacrifice hours of tedious research among the scattered materials of thought! Are not these considerations suggestive of plain and simple writing while upon the subject of flies? That it would be rather beyond the object of these articles to cram information down such young throats, on the entire routine of artificial fly making, is obvious. Yet I should not miss the opportunity of offering a few remarks relative thereto.

I believe it is an established idea that salmon ostentatiously parade an effeminate appreciation of gaudy glitter; of happy—or sometimes, in our eyes, very unhappy—combination of disordered colours; and so, without explanation or apology for their want of taste, I may mention a few facts bearing upon the subject of flies which have come under my notice, and which are perhaps as new to amateurs as to many professionals. I need not enter into all the minutiae of why the hands should be clean, or the nails long; *çava sans dire*.

With regard to Salmon Flies, what is there to suggest worth noting? "The doubling of the dyed" applies also to the natural hackles; the process of shaping one to take the place of two, is well understood now by many experienced dressers. In the first place, the fly fishes better; in the second, we save just half the expense.

Take the hackle by its point between the thumb and finger of the left hand, the outside being underneath, and nip the butt of the stem with the tweezers which are to be held in the palm of the right hand, while the thumb is engaged in pressing the outer fibres to make them lap over the others on the left-hand side of the stem. Curve the hackle over the forefinger by placing the left hand a shade lower than the right; thus, the slight natural tendency of the fibres bending towards each other will be considerably increased, and the desired result easier accomplished. The object is to be able to entwine one hackle with all the fibres round, and down the body of the fly, pointing in the direction of the tag, instead of using two and stripping off the right side of both.

Salmon flies are so unlike those for trout fishing, where we have to imitate natural insect for use in their season, that a word or two may be interposed.

Many years ago I could not get hackles short enough; now I use nearly the largest; and, when dyeing in almost every colour but blue, I select those having black points. Short hackled flies are for shop windows only. There are many good fishermen on the Tay, Tweed, Inver, and Dee, and in each of these rivers last season the Penpergwm Pet was the greatest favourite with my friends; while in the year before I must have killed at least fifty fish with it myself on the Usk.

A salmon fly is not entirely dependent upon the hackle, but principally so, and if properly managed in manufacture it meets with a more flattering reception in those frequent intervals when fish are fastidious. Always use natural blacks, never dyed. Select all hackles with shiny fibres from the stem to their points, discarding all those that are fluffy, as well as others that have cheesy lists.

Free feeding with hempseed when fowls are moulting makes a vast difference to the fineness and polish of their neck feathers; however, it should not be forgotten that it tends to deepen the colour, which is sometimes beneficial, but more frequently injurious.

Now with regard to built wings, it is necessary to possess good feathers, not for show but for use; and a sprinkling of naphthaline crystal is the best antidote or protection against moths and other insects.

Feathers are kept best in books, over which an elastic band will be useful; but this applies more to amateurs who have no case to keep them in. The sides of every feather should be carefully smoothed when the hands are cool and clean, they will then retain their colour and shape for years.

Suppose you have to mix teal, mallard and golden pheasant tail; unless it is for a standard pattern or otherwise ordered, it would be well to place the mallard at top, and the teal in the centre. The strips of all three should be drawn off and united side to side; the fluffy edges will ensure their "catching." This helps to keep the head of the fly small, because the same amount of silk which would otherwise tie on one strip answers for all three; two turns for either side is enough for the present.

The right-hand side of the feather—known by putting the stem towards you with the points from you and the shiny or outside of the feather uppermost—is for that side of the hook nearer to you when the bend of it is held for work between the left thumb and forefinger, with its point downwards. An experienced dresser finds no difficulty in fixing a strip of this; he holds the silk tightly in winding; but if it were wound loosely, and tightened too late, the feather would scoup and project; or, if the silk is too coarse so that the under work is uneven, there would be the same injurious result, and the fly could not fish regularly. The quickest way, though not one which I recommend, is to make a half-hitch with the tying silk, and wind it towards instead of from you, then the feather *must* be easier to control; but each half-hitch necessitates a second—if the fly is finished with toppings and horns—and that weakens and obstructs the head, as well as giving it a clumsy appearance.

It is necessary to make all the mixed-wing feathers to point down, and the finer the fibre—such as mallard and teal—the more troublesome to the pupil to manage. The single strands of any wing feathers are not round, they are more or less knife-shaped; the sharp or under edge must be downwards on the hook; so to manage this for the left wing, put the strips into position, then by a pressure with the middle finger of the left hand squeeze them to the hook, close down to the work while binding them; they can never reverse afterwards if the silk is kept tight. It is a great pity that London firms do not insist upon the Gossamer silk being used. Professionals fancy it is a trifle too fine; but that is its real beauty. It was introduced by a practical man with no end of experience, not only in making but in using Salmon flies; I am convinced they not only fish better, but last much longer, when made with this cable-laid silk.

With a topping, determine the length required. Rest the butt end on the forefinger and press the thumb-nail on the quill where the tying silk is to cross; now bend the topping back and up towards the thumb engaged in making the dent. They often get out of shape by their weight alone if many are mixed together in a box; you can then hold them singly by the tweezers in the steam from a boiling kettle, and set them easily afterwards.

Before alluding to wings, I may just say that, flat silver bodies are made more readily by fastening the tinsel at the head, winding it to the tag and back to the head again. But for show flies, a white floss silk ground work is best, wound on as tightly as possible, then frayed out by gently scratching the surface with the point of a needle and truly tapered afterwards with the blade of a knife by the aid of white hard varnish.

Built wings are made with strips, but mixed wings should be made up in single strands. For a dozen flies, thirty-six bundles of right and left are required. Take gallina, powdered blue macaw, teal, summer duck, grey mallard, or tippet, any or all to begin with. The easiest plan is to lay down each strand on its back and pile up with intermediate material, such as golden pheasant's tail, turkey, black cock-a-too's tail, and bustard; make each bundle the same length. Take care in picking them up from the table; and in packing the three lumps for either side of the fly, let the second be a shade longer than the first, and the third—for the top part of the wing—still more so.

Except my own, I know of no standard patterns dressed in this, the best way; and, with the exception of Jock Scott, I make almost all for personal use as described, simply with the addition of a slight strip tied on the top over all from some feather to steady and regulate the play in the water; this is selected from the bird, the colour of which is suited to the locality.

If we may judge from practical results, colour is a grand consideration with salmon; for instance, the blue and silver doctors are great favourites on the Tweed, but I have never moved a fish at Usk yet with either.

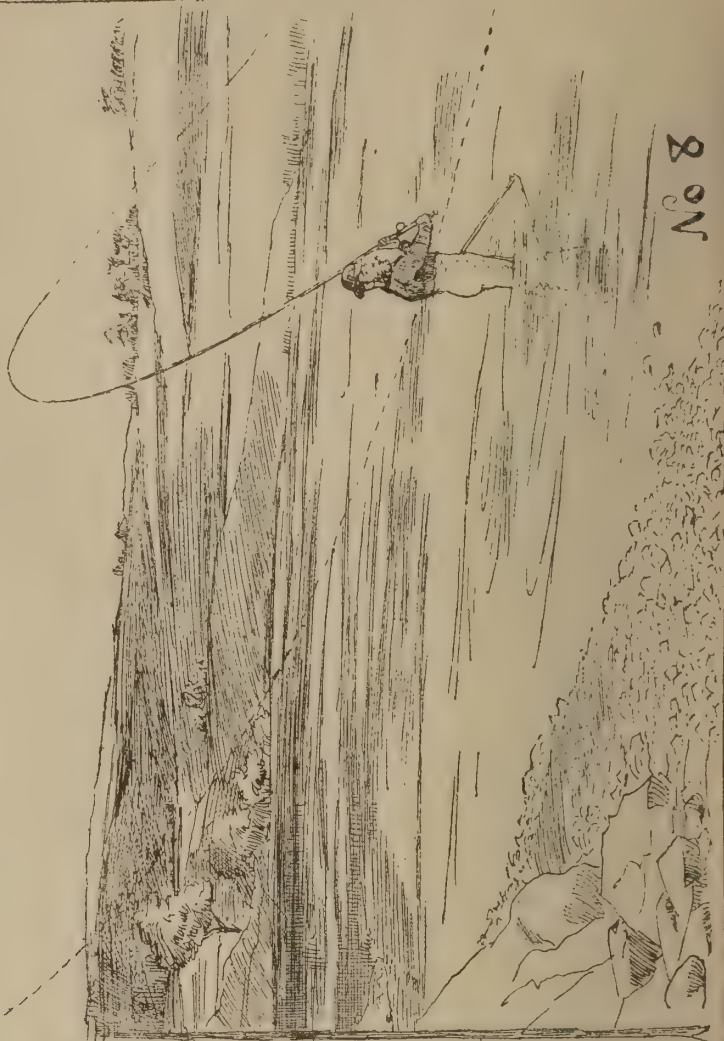
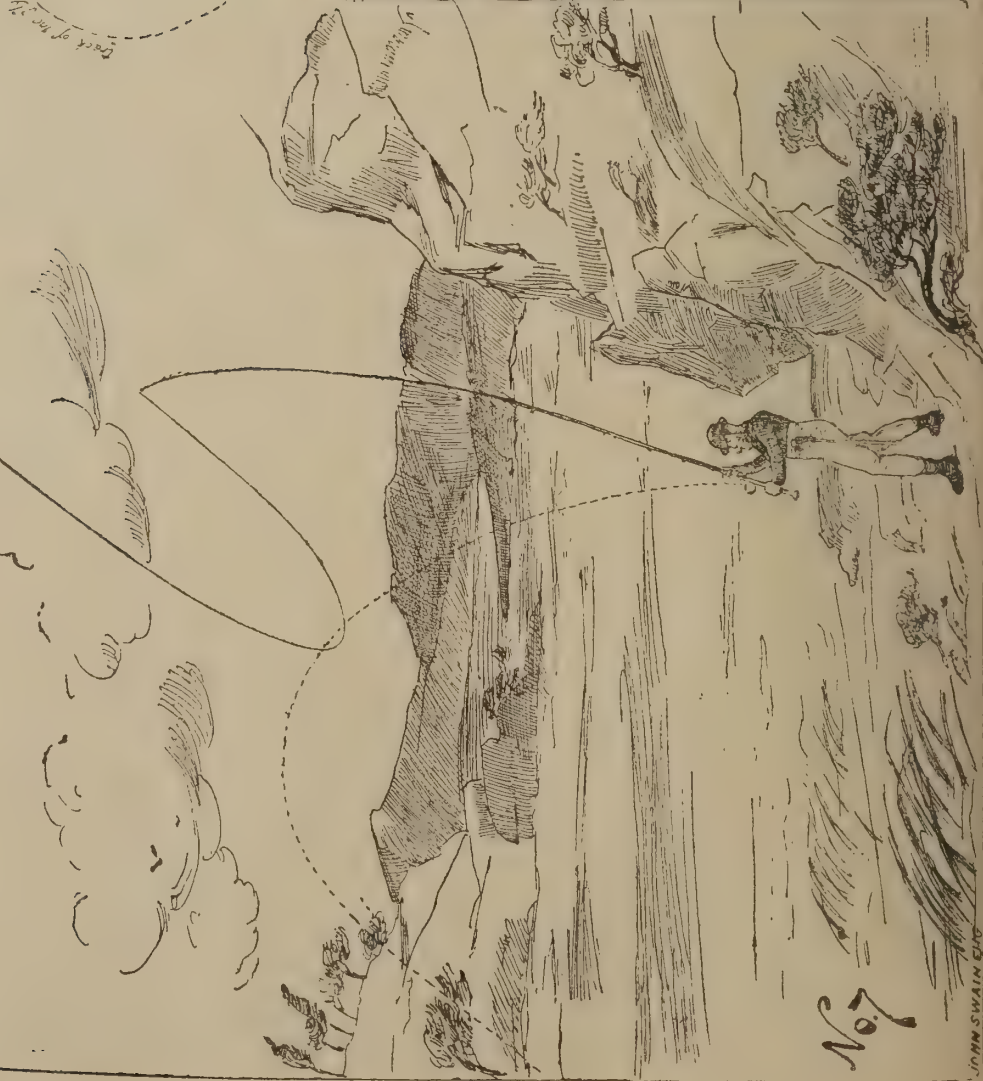
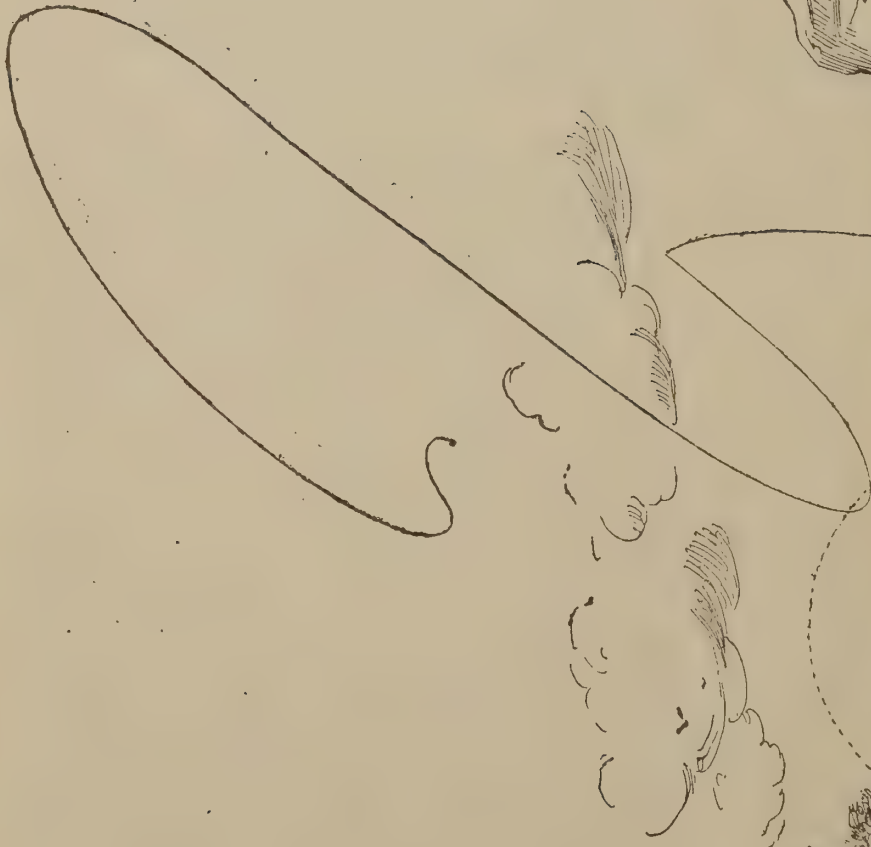
Unless the wings are as well constructed as the hackles, the fly cannot fish properly; and if the head is the least atom too large, it will skirt the water and scare the fish. The fly can be beautified or brightened by taking two strands of yellow macaw, two of scarlet, or light olive-green, dyed swan, Canadian duck, &c.

For all Scotch rivers make medium wings—Irish and Canadian, slight and the bodies fine; Norwegian, heavy, and the bodies well picked out—Usk, as much as possible, so long as the heads are not cruelly burdened. Wye, moderate; North of England, single strips (similar to the beautifully-made Dee patterns by William Milne) are favoured; though I prefer mixed wings.

Do not hold the scissors across the head when cutting off waste feather, but point them along the shank of the hook; the former plan makes an ugly shoulder, and the latter a tapered head, which is preferable and correct.

Never use ostrich herl at the head unless it is ordered (and then

* See Editorial footnote to this article, *in re* continuation of Mr. Kelson's articles.



No 8

No 7

JOHN SWAIN ENG.

ILLUSTRATIONS TO GEO. M. NELSON'S ARTICLE ON SALMON FISHING. (See FISHING GAZETTE, March 6, 1884.)

amateurs always have a bad memory); it looks pretty, but it prevents the free application of varnish after the fly has been used.

Peacocks' herl should be collected annually; as the old feathers are useless. Always choose the best gut for making the loops, and let it be soaked a day in cold water before it is twisted.

In fly dressing, amateurs more readily slacken the springs of endeavour—they are apt to blunder just where they are most ambitious of success, and although much more sanguine than professionals, to them it is more difficult to redeem defeat even by firm and intellectual action; they are then led through the lanes of impatience to despair, which they find too hard to master.

It is all bosh about "luck," a man's success is the index of his merit; and whether in manufacture, or in the use of salmon flies, he who is uniformly unlucky is sure to be regarded by others as wanting in the qualities that command success. Strenuous minds abominate cheap successes; but perfection is not cheap; it means, at least, evenly-tapered bodies, and small heads, with arched wings carrying each fibre of hackle and feather in true perspective. If the truth in detail is desired, the iron lids of the mind's eye can only be levered to see its oracles, by persistent practice in the taciturnity of Time.

The clumsiest may become expert by attention to correct teaching; but I have generally observed the younger the pupil, the easier, the better, and the quicker will he "tie a fly in the dark." Now that we have lost West and McDougall, who launched from their separate establishments about a gross per diem, where are the dressers upon whom we can depend?

Surely in the great multitudes of the young families I have brought under your notice, there must be, by the mere law of averages, a certain percentage of high capacity—even of that highest which we might well call genius—lying undeveloped.

How easily could those powers be educated. How quickly would any attentive pupil set up in business "on his own hook," where, I may tell him, he would find a most comfortable seat.

Now, boys, would not this be better than having the reputation of "regular loafers," or even getting a more flow'ry one, by walking about with bakers' barrows?

The example I gave of the home so joyously crowded with cheerful hearts and brave young minds, which lighted up poverty and converted ignorance into amiable simplicity, might well exist in reality.

Such young people should remember that Sight is a valuable guest, but unlikely to remain anywhere long, if mixed wings are made in the evening by the side of paraffin lamps. It is astonishing how some of these families who have most time at their disposal profit the least by it before sunset.

Were the claims of fly-making ever considered among the many replies to "What shall we do with our boys?" In this business there is a charm, a pleasure, if not a fascination, and there is always plenty of work to do. How many fishermen are there in England alone who spend £30 annually upon flies? How many hundreds £10? And every year increases the muster roll of salmon anglers.

The Fisheries Exhibition has decided this country to be the leader in angling materials, but we are hopelessly behind the age in fly-dressing. There are many families whose situation this business would elevate; and the more elevated—whose ambition would lead them to try and maintain themselves in a higher position than their station or attainments warrant—need not fear to approach a profession which they would be unlikely to repent afterwards.

In concluding these hints to parents and guardians, should they find them in the least serviceable, I may delicately give notice that I fully anticipate a mile or two of good salmon fishing or some other trifling return.

How often has it been written that success in salmon angling depends upon the coachman who drives the fly? My experience serves to suggest that the size, colour, and action of the "fly-horse" is not the least important. Practice alone can tell us what to "harness" when others fail. Salmon may be coaxed or aggravated into recognising the bait. They are often tempted to strike it with their tail without the remotest intention of closing their teeth upon it. Persuasive means with small flies is sportsmanlike; still, when ineffective, a monster hook with irrational, unblending hues of seal's fur may, and often does, "raise a ring." An interview of any description is generally productive of good results.

Almost every season the long list of patterns is increased, and this is undoubtedly a necessity; that which is perfectly useless one year would almost "raise a dead 'un" next; and the greatest favourite upon one day, would not "turn a tail" upon another. The Popham, invented on the banks of the Tweed by the late John George Children, of Halstead, was as familiar in the Duke of Roxburgh district as Jock Scott. It was tried in vain for years in some of the Irish waters, but now it is quite a favourite upon the Stair, while it is losing its reputation at home; and this is but one out of numberless examples.

The "duffer's day," when any fly is irresistible, is not so very rare, and upon these occasions fish are very friendly and readily accept any invitation. Every hour, however, after a fresh decrease these ravenous appetites, and it is just then that only the names of the experienced, with well-made flies, are seen in the records.

Salmon flies are used small at the mouth of rivers, but increased in size perhaps every ten miles. In cold windy weather, or heavy water, a full-sized fly is desirable; but the more rapid the stream the better it must be made, and care should be taken to see that it swims well. Of this necessity, juniors have very indistinct ideas; I may inform them that I fail to call to mind a single instance of presenting the lure without ascertaining that before making the cast.

It is impossible to explain all the various lights, shades, reflections, depths of water, and strength of current, that would strike the keynote to the scale in size and colour. I have always found bright flies are best in open catches, dull specimens in dark deep pools, and small ones in hot summer weather. The path by a salmon river is ever widening itself as more travel in it, and those who are industrious will find plenty of luck along its course; many a local hero's glory has been made dim by the enthusiastic persistence of an occasional experienced visitor.

The salmon fly can be worked with, across, or against the stream; the latter is most popular and decidedly the most killing; the two former are seldom attempted, except in steady currents.

A remarkable instance reminding of the "old saw" again, came under my notice in 1882. A young angler took possession of a pool, considered by old judges to be eight inches too low, and was in perpetual attendance for a fortnight; he actually gaffed eleven salmon and lost seven, by fishing a new catch, up stream. A little fanciful arrangement with the water bailiff afterwards, induced me to try the same catch in the same manner by means of the flip cast, and it resulted in an interview upon the first, and a payment to the keeper upon the second visit, when I banked a 10 lb. fish; therefore it is possible to work the fly with the stream successfully.

Grace in action is a beneficent beauty, and lends us many aids unknown to those who do not study attitude. We should stand easy and erect, a spirit of confidence will then awaken within us before which many difficulties will die away. One cannot be always successful if ever so well appointed, but he who is first in the charge and last in retreat has the best chance, his companion being—self-reliance.

Before leaving the subject of flies, and in fulfilment of a promise in reference to the metropolitan firms, let me note that Mr. Farlow has the same dressers as usual. I have so frequently called attention to the various works connected with salmon fishing at this establishment that I scarcely consider it necessary to enlarge upon former remarks.

Mr. Bernard's stock is perhaps the largest in London. No artist I believe could be nearer perfection than this manufacturer in his day. All his original patterns, from page to page, and cover to cover, were exempt from faults; and though it is a bold statement, I believe there is no artist more intimate with the particulars of standard specimens than this manufacturer. He dresses four newish patterns, and each are very attractive and beautifully made.

Mr. Aldred's Jock Scotts, Pophams, Doctors, Butchers, and other old standard patterns are exceptionally strong and neatly made by modern hands very well tutored. This young artist is the rising man, his work is admirable, and will last twice as long as most others; even in the rough common patterns every fibre is accurately fixed upon small heads, so that they must swim well. I have forwarded him a few of my own favourites, which he purposes supplying for the future.

Mr. Main, Jermyn Street, keeps up his reputation very well; his own work is always first class.

A great defect in professional work generally, is that flies are dressed too small upon the hooks—thus, a No. 3 could well be used to carry the same materials that are misfitted to No. 4.

Customs that date back to remote antiquity still prevail; I have, however, no hesitation in recommending the use of double hooks. I explained in the "Chat" article how, and why we make our own. When properly "married," they remain faithful for years, and seldom slip, but any "conjugal carelessness" ensures dissolution sooner or later; and if one of the lately united pair eloped with a cock salmon, would it not puzzle the President of the Divorce Court to find a remedy?

It is gratifying to be able to state that this perpetual process of filing and whipping will die a natural death this season, and another instance will be recorded that the great wheels of the world's industry never seem to stop. Mr. Millward supplies double hooks now that are a treat to dress a fly on; they are not only an improvement, but are admirably suited to modern requirements, for bodies can be made as tapered and as slight on them as on single hooks. Besides the hook department, the "iron industry" in manufactories is impregnated at last by the efforts of the amateur agitators, and almost all the items for our art are being overhauled in this era of revision and improvement. It is unnecessary to open up the subject of lines again, as my opinions were expressed at some length in the last article; but, with much pleasure, I may mention incidentally that Messrs. Hemming and Co. have been so successful in every detail to which I called attention, that their success—so complete—serves to suggest it is not for the want of care or attention, but from the want of sound practical knowledge that we are tortured with all sorts of fishy produce, from other manufactories that is next to useless on salmon rivers.

Salmon fishermen must have the best materials, and as we desire tackle that we can depend upon, we should make our purchases at these, the best makers, although they invariably charge the best prices.

The immense advantage of "hitting a fish off the reel"—another of the accepted truths in angling—is well known to those who practise it; but to do this effectually the reel must be strengthened sufficiently when necessary, by bending the internal spring to prevent the line from over running, even with a sharp snatch. Breaking or tearing the "hold," then, in striking a salmon is almost impossible, always supposing the angler keeps his hands under, not on, the line; upon this fact I speak very confidently. It matters not how hard you strike; the reel is sure to revolve before the flesh of the fish is torn. We are of course as liable to "prick fish," as the term goes, but I refer to a case where the hooks are inside the jaws. With very large hooks on treble gut, or in long casts in slackish water, one must hold the line. It is astonishing the number of salmon you may gaff with the hooks as firm as when the skirmish commenced if you give them a good tug in the manner described, and—although I am unable to account for it—

you will notice they invariably get inserted perfectly straight. Now, if we were to fix a double-hook fly in a piece of wood and pull askew, either the gut or one hook must break; but as against this, and in favour of the method advocated, I have always been given to understand that the angler who loses a fish by "one hook working the other out," as is said, has *held* the line instead of leaving it alone.

It would not be wise for any fly fisherman to use Nottingham reels at first; the manual management of the checking power would take the tyro months to master, and any mismanagement, which is all but inevitable, would be fatal just when the special qualities of these reels should be serviceable.

When the patentee—Mr. D. Slater—crowns his well-earned victory by introducing a brake as ready of application as the check which is admirably arranged, his reel, such a boon for other fishing on Thames, Trent, &c., will constantly be seen in salmon districts attached to the rods of those anglers who know the value and superiority of this Nottingham winch.

I may remark that prawn fishing, travelling with the shrimp or worm where allowed, when flies are useless, has been made an easy business by the use of these ingenious reels manufactured at Newark.

In science, or everyday life, we often see that novelties either in system or practice, are rarely appreciated till time has sobered the enthusiasm of their advocates. Some fishermen can hardly withstand the charms of novelty; others are contented with the same old materials, and turn deaf ears to anything new. However, while talking of salmon winches, the "Sun and Planet" is the best ever introduced. Indeed, it is admitted by all experienced fishermen to be the only perfect reel in the trade. Its superior points are—

1. The revolving plate and the position of the handle, remains stationary when a fish is taking out line. In this, it differs from other reels.

2. It does not overrun; and by a slight pressure of the forefinger and thumb upon the handle,—which revolves on its own axis when the line is going,—the run of the fish may be checked as much or as little as the angler desires.

3. "In action," the reel will run freely in any position; and cannot be stopped by any obstacle in contact with the handle, such as coat sleeves, &c.

And lastly, when the line is slackened by the fish running towards the angler it may be wound up in half the time. All these improvements have been attained without any increase in bulk or weight. One, $4\frac{1}{2}$ in diameter, will hold 100 yards, viz: a 30 to 16 line with 60 yards of backing. The advantages that commend these reels are so obvious that if once they were brought under the notice of anglers, they would be unlikely to purchase any other. The price is £2 only.

It is as great an error to use reels too light as it is to use those that are too heavy; the correct weight may be ascertained by the action of the rod. There is nothing of any importance to note in the old-fashioned sort except, perhaps; that manufacturers see the necessity of making the cross-bars plain and the rims of the plates more rounding.

I have been for some time anticipating some external appliance for strengthening the brake without taking the winch to pieces. I understand this important alteration is nearly complete, and so "the long looked for will come at last."

We have now approached a cast that will test the metal and sagacity of the angler.

THE WIND CAST.

No. 7.

As I have already observed, discipline is of no mean importance to us, and we must be disciplined by experience before we can succeed with this cast. There is, however, nothing very difficult to attain if every branch in our learning is earnestly pursued; the up, down, or side thrash must be as familiar to us as the ordinary overhand cast; but no directions or written teaching can enable the angler to fish against a strong wind without practice. The latent power in a fisherman is often unknown even to himself, and it is only evoked by repeated and persevering trials.

I am not aware that opinions differ upon the management of rod and line for this cast. To be master of the situation, the greatest power must be exercised in lifting the line, employ all the strength that can be employed; the higher and quicker it is sent overhead as illustrated, the easier and surer will it be propelled by the down cast, which should follow without a perceptible interval, and effected in the same way as described for the switch; the only thing to fear is the rod; but fishermen never fear anything save and except the reputation of cowardice. The dotted line represents the action of the rod.

The anglers who do not know all these casts should make the most of those they do, and practise others on off days, which would be more agreeable and creditable than awkwardly attempting in public to exhibit their elusive erudition.

Some have an indomitable will and a natural power of leading others; but when advice is offered even by those who have the power to convey it in pleasing phrase, it would have much more influence and effect if enforced by practical demonstration, rather than by eloquent description.

How can we wonder, he who will intrude
E'en useful words, meets but ingratitude.
Clothe words addressed to tender hearted,
With deeds to prove what is imparted.

Now we come to the beginning of the end. May I say that having been so far remote from reproof and editorial restraint in this impulsive and primary essay to address you piscatorially, my inordinate desire forsakes me when I come to consider that I have occupied no less

than four supplements illustrated with casts and "personal etceteras"; and still new-fledged fancies are fluttering around me.

I have jokingly alluded to the Artist; but what could we have done without his excellent sketches? They are not only drawn with marvellous suggestive power and the truthful ease which only knowledge can give, but they are admirable both for instruction and elucidation.

I have also alluded to the ironical moods of Nature;—fishermen are always finding fault with something—but if we were to search into and examine all that is done by Nature's hand alone, the more we should be persuaded, or rather convinced, there are few things, if any, that are not adapted for the purpose for which they were intended. Doubtless the informal colouring I have adopted in my attempts to kindle and consume the false fires of passion which too often lead young fishermen astray, may evoke derision. Intuition sees farther than a man's discernment can penetrate, and though perhaps my "Fiery Browns" may render some service, they are very likely too academic in tone, and "flipped" with a "badly-dressed, inelegant line"; still, they may be detected and serve as a gentle reminder to the less inflammatory and more refined students—an "invitation" which may not be altogether unacceptable.

We are by the "tension in nature" held together—we are warmed by the same fire of sympathy—we are happy with the same happiness; all of our first lessons, probably, were very prettily conveyed by parental alphabet, and although I am cognisant of having defied the principles of others, let it still be verified in the summing up that the hand—as suggested previously—may be strong in sport; and let the verdict corroborate that the salmon fisherman is, and ever will be,

"In life the firmest friend,

The first to welcome, the foremost to defend."

We have at length arrived at the

UNDERHAND CAST,

which comes better late than never to enjoy an "innings" of public notice. I purposely left this to the last, because, if what I have written is considered in reference to the care of first lifting the line (except for the wind cast), the butt action of the rod, and attitude, there would be little to add to what is imparted by the illustration. The line need not be raised vertically, and, therefore, the right hand assumes a comparatively easy position. A long cast cannot be made underhand; and there is no interval (as with the overhand) to allow the line to extend behind. The dotted line points out the course the fly should take. It is the easiest cast of all, and the rod should do the work, and not the angler.

"It needs no special art

To keep men patient when they once are smart.

Not chance alone in any pool will do,

Without much practice and much prudence too."

Untrained anglers must be burdened with faults while they are feeding their appetite for superiority. Salmon fishing belongs to the energetic; what one man has done another can do; and though any moment may shower something to baffle and distract, there is always a "way" in every pool to that which is desirable, and which by the magic of nature can be easily discovered. Sometimes we are abruptly convinced that we may secretly loathe one or another cast, without having the least practical experience to guide us with a single fact relating to their value; so the student should take no special fancy, but work at all of them; he will then soon become enraptured with lively anticipations of a bright and brilliant future.

And now my readers' patience has, I think, been sufficiently taxed; it, therefore, only remains for me to say my last word.

I feel sure they will agree with me that there is an infinite fascination in the investigation of linguistic fossils with which every language, and our own especially, abounds; but I have come to the conclusion that dictionaries may be searched in vain, in despair, to find a suitable blending for that pass-word of memory, "Farewell."

Not, however, in the stream of despair, but in the pool of sincerity is my last line cast to bid you "Adieu."

P.S.—Besides the directions I gave for recovering the line to make a second Flip cast (No. 2 Article), the angler could point the rod immediately behind him up stream, and wind in the line till the fly reaches his side.

[Although this finishes the series of articles illustrating the casts, we have much pleasure in stating that Mr. Kelson has promised to give us descriptions (illustrated) of the Standard Patterns of Salmon Flies, to accord with the Standard Colours, which we understand will be ready in a week or two. We know many anglers will be glad to hear this, as well as the whole of the trade. They have waited impatiently for Mr. Kelson's long-promised "Standard" of colours. As Mr. Kelson possesses the original patterns of many of the favourite flies, and has exceptional means of getting all the important ones, his illustrated list will be invaluable. We propose to give three flies each week, drawn full size, and Mr. Kelson will carefully describe, not only the dressing of each, but also in what state of water it kills best. We cannot conclude this note without offering our best thanks to Mr. Kelson, and acknowledging the great amount of interest among salmon anglers which these articles of his have created.—ED.]

GEORGE JAMES EATON, of Starkholmes, Matlock-Bath, Derbyshire, respectfully invites Noblemen and Gentlemen to try his standard FLIES for the present season. No flies sent or made up but what he himself has proved sure killers. A trial is all that is required, from gentlemen who can fish, to prove whether they may be genuine or not. Patronised by some of the best fishermen of the day. All flies dressed on the best Kendal hooks. Prices: Point Flies, 2s. 6d. per Dozen; Dropper Flies, 2s. per Dozen. Orders punctually attended to.—(Advrt.)

CLUB AND OTHER JOTTINGS.

By L. B.

ON Monday evening, the 3rd inst., the usual monthly meeting of the United London Anglers' Central Committee was held at the Bald Faced Stag, Worship Square, Finsbury, Mr. Samuel Morgan in the chair, Mr. R. Ghurney being at his usual post of secretary.

After reading and confirming the minutes of the previous monthly meeting, the secretary read the correspondence, which included letters from Mr. W. H. Brougham, secretary of the Thames Angling Preservation Society; from the Police at Hoddesdon, re capture of nets on river Lea; from the bailiff at same place, complaining of illegal angling; from Mrs. Graham Smith's agent, asserting on that lady's behalf private rights in the main navigable portion of the river Thames flowing past her various properties both on the Buckinghamshire and Berkshire sides of the river, and threatening with legal proceedings any person who continued to angle therein after receipt of such notice; a letter from the secretary of the Open Spaces and Commons Preservation Society, re public rights in the river Thames, and enclosing a form of petition to Parliament praying for a Select Committee to inquire into same; and a letter from the London and South-Western Railway Company, respecting the abuse of a railway privilege card.

The following resolutions were duly proposed and carried:—

By Mr. Field, seconded by Mr. Manning: "That a petition praying for the election of a Select Committee of the House of Commons to inquire into the Act relating to the Rights of the Public on the river Thames be signed by all delegates present and sent to the borough members, with a request that they earnestly support the election of such committee."

By Mr. Manning, seconded by Mr. Walker: "That a special general meeting be called for Friday evening, March 7th, for nine o'clock, to consider the complaint made by the London and South-Western Railway Company against a member of this committee for having infringed the regulation of his privilege ticket (Feb. 24th)."

Upon the roll being called, it was found the following societies were represented:—The Cavendish, West Central Angling Club, Izaak Walton, Stoke Newington, Sociable Brothers, Phoenix, Hoxton Brothers, West Ham, Alexandra, Great Northern Brothers, West Green, Alliance, Little Independent, Amicable Brothers, Stepney, Original Alexandra, Hearts of Oak, Burdett, and Metropolitan; the West Central Association of London and Provincial Angling Societies by Messrs. Field, Sturr, and L. Bonvoisin; the River Lea bailiffs by Messrs. J. G. Baylee, A. Williams, and W. High; a hearty vote of thanks to the chair bringing the meeting to a close.

A local West Central Association visit was paid the Good Intent Angling Society the same evening, the commodious club-room being very well filled, and some fifteen societies numerous represented. Some good songs were sung during the evening.

Re the Hoole Testimonial. Will club secretaries kindly send in their lists to the honorary secretary as early as possible? Two, and in some cases three, circulars and subscription lists have been sent to the secretary of every club enrolled on the West Central Association's books; but up to present date only forty-two out of nearly ninety societies have sent in their returns. Since the publication of the last list the honorary secretary, Mr. L. Bonvoisin, begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following contributions:—

	£	s.	d.
City of London Angling Club	0	7	6
Hammersmith Social Club	0	5	0
North-Western Angling Club	1	1	0
Duke of Norfolk Angling Club	0	10	6
Bostonians' Angling Club	0	4	0
H. Myall, Esq. (sec. M. A. S.)	0	2	6
Society of Caxtonians	1	1	0
Savoy Brothers' Angling Club	0	10	6
South Belgravia Angling Club	0	7	0
South-Eastern Angling Club	0	7	6
W. Beckett, Esq.	0	10	6
Sir Henry Peek, Bart., M.P. (per W. H. Brougham, Esq.)	1	1	0
Messrs. Cording & Co. (per W. H. Brougham, Esq.)	0	10	0
Sir Trevor Lawrence, Bart., M.P.	1	1	0
John Noble, Esq. (per W. H. Brougham, Esq.)	1	1	0
Thomas Plews, Esq. (per W. H. Brougham, Esq.)	1	1	0
—Gurney, Esq. (Colnbrook)	0	10	0

bringing the total amount subscribed up to present date to £79 17s.

LIKE BEGETS LIKE.

SIR,—I am glad to see that some people connected with a salmon river have awakened to the fact that the old maxim, "Like begets like," is of as vital importance to the development of many rivers as it is in the production of the best kinds of stock, be they horses, beasts, sheep, pigs, or poultry, not excepting the vegetable kingdom. The other day a report appeared of the annual meeting of the Esk Fishery Association and Board of Conservators, in which report it was stated that a certain sum was set apart for the purchase of salmon ova from an early river.

The Yorkshire Esk is a late river—very few fish run into it in May and June; a few more in July, August, and September; but the bulk do not run until October, November, and even December. It is plain that if a decent run of fish can be got to come up in March, April, and May, it will be a great gain to everybody concerned. For some years past salmon have been hatched artificially, but the spawn has, so far as I can learn, always been taken from late running fish—fish that were just leaving the sea about the end of November and December. If there is any truth in breeding, the progeny of these fish will be late running fish likewise, of little or no value to rod fishers on that particular river, or to net fishers on the immediate coast, as all nets are off on 1st September.

The same plan of breeding from late fish appears to have been carried out on the Tay for many years back, instead of obtaining ova from the head waters of Loch Tay, the Lochay, and Dochart, from fish that had gone up in January, February, and March; it has been taken wholesale from November and December running fish, or, at any rate, from fish that had run long after the nets were off. This system must have the effect of crowding the lower parts of rivers with a type of fish that are but little use to any one, and only adds to the risk of disease. On the other hand, the fish of most value have the risk of all the nets and rods to run, the latter for the whole summer and autumn, and then to spawn in parts of the rivers most open to poachers. Surely, if artificial breeding be used at all, these early runners and consequent early spawners are the fish from which ova should be got, they being handicapped all ways as against their later coming brethren, who are in a happy position of being practically clear of danger from both nets and rods, and invariably spawn in the lowermost reaches of rivers where there is the least danger from poachers.

Then there is the Tweed; we have heard many complaints of the poorness of the spring and summer salmon (rod) fishing. How can it be otherwise? Look at the crushing way in which it is netted. How can there be any but a very few pairs of early fish ever got to the higher waters to reproduce the breed of early fish? And there the art of poaching is yet neither forgotten or stamped out.

As to the suggestion to take and hatch ova from diseased and dead fish, it is almost certain to perpetuate and increase the number of diseased fish in future years, supposing it hatches, which is very doubtful, and quite contrary to the experience of—Yours, &c.

BLACK DOCTOR.

[We quite agree with "Black Doctor" (as we said, when Mr. Anderson's letter appeared), that if there is any danger of perpetuating disease by breeding from diseased fish it must not be done. Opinions differ, and only careful and long experience can settle the question. "Black Doctor's" theory that if you take eggs from autumn salmon their progeny will also be late running fish, is a new one to us, and rather doubtful we think. How does he account for the fact that while the Itchen and Wey trout spawn in November and December in England, their descendants in Tasmania and New Zealand are then getting into prime condition? The development of salmon eggs can be retarded immensely—the fry are often in the fresh water for very varying periods, and the returning batches of grilse vary in size often by some pounds. This is a very interesting question, and we shall be glad to have the views of some of our readers on it.—ED.]

A SCOTCH NOTE.

SIR,—I had Major X. in on Friday, and he spoke very highly of the GAZETTE. He thinks it a capital paper, and deserving a first place in the estimation of salmon fishers. Certainly it is more interesting than any of the other angling papers at present. The overhand cast described by Mr. Kelson last week Major X. says is better done by the Dee men than any fishers he ever met. He has kindly invited me to have a day with him soon on Woodend water, and should anything remarkable occur perhaps you might make space for a paragraph or two recording the day's doings, à la Editor and Mr. Jardine.

By the bye, it makes a Scotchman smile to read of your 100 mile journey to catch pike. We scarcely think them worth fishing for here. There are a good few to be had, but the feeling is that they are not "game." Pike fishing with us stands in the same relation to sport in the water that crow shooting does to sport in the field. Not that I should despise it. I have an old stuffed chap, presented me by Mr. Michell, of Forcett Park, Darlington, which was caught with my phantom minnow, and weighed 28 lb. He is getting rather dilapidated in appearance now through long exposure in my window; but Mr. Michell has promised me the next big one he takes to replace him. Both Mr. Michell and his sons have frequently had pike over 28 lb. at Darlington with my phantom. Perhaps the utilitarian bent of the Scotch character tends to prejudice us against Mr. "Jack." I brought one home some years ago, and subjected it to a variety of culinary applications in turn; but Mr. "Pike" remained unpalatable to the last, and since then I have fallen into the national habit of neglecting his capture.

The Dee and Don have been figuring pretty largely in your paper lately through the contributions of Mr. M —, and his descriptions of Dee patterns should be valuable to anglers who dress their own flies; but how few do so nowadays! Time was when, on the banks of the Dee, the defeated angler would sit him down under a spreading pine, and concoct a salmon fly from the ideas of his fertile brain, and the materials in his capacious fly-book, and, perchance, his fancy was the very bait the king of fishes had been waiting for, and to which he gallantly succumbed at the first offer. But now, when anglers come 500 miles, pay a ransom in name of rent, and have to hurry away again at too short a date, fishing has become a serious affair—too serious to be trifled with in the lazy, leisurely manner of old Izaak. More's the pity. But very likely I am only wasting an Editor's precious time. I shall be very glad to send you one or two patterns of our Dee flies if you have never seen them. They are not like those used anywhere else (except that they may be adopting them on other waters—I send a great many to London), and they are tied nowhere out of Aberdeen.—I am, &c.,

George Street, Aberdeen.

WM. BROWN.

[Shall be glad to see the flies. If Mr. Brown spent most of his daylight in this big, smoky, modern Babylon, he would be glad to go 200 miles if necessary, even to catch pike. We all like fishing for the Salmonidæ when we can get it, far before anything else.—ED.]

READING AND DISTRICT ANGLING ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the above valuable and flourishing association was held on Tuesday in last week at the headquarters, the Great Western Hotel, Reading, the president (Mr. James Simonds) occupying the chair. There was a good attendance of members. The report and cash account were submitted and approved. Mr. Jas. Simonds, as president, Mr. R. Benyon, Mr. H. B. Blandy, Mr. H. Creed, Mr. Francis Francis, Mr. J. Noble, Mr. G. Palmer, M.P., and Mr. W. I. Palmer, as vice presidents; Mr. C. Stephens, as hon. treasurer; Mr. W. Ferguson and Mr. Creed as auditors; and Mr. Arthur C. Butler as hon. secretary, were re-elected; and a committee was appointed. Mr. R. B. Marston (FISHING GAZETTE) was elected an honorary vice-president, in recognition of his exertions in promoting the cause of fish culture. The hon. secretary was asked to accept an honorarium of £10 10s. in recognition of his services during the past year; and the meeting closed with a hearty vote of thanks to the president. The following is an abstract of the report:—In presenting their seventh annual report, your committee have once more the pleasure of recording a year of important and successful work for the benefit of the angling community. The objects of the association—which are to increase the stock of fish by protection, culture, purchase, and other means—have been consistently carried out, from the formation of the association, at a large expenditure of time, energy, and money; and the efforts of your committee are increasingly recognised by the public in proportion as the improvement in Thames angling, particularly for trout, becomes more patent. During the year 212 Wycombe trout ranging from $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. to 2 lb. in weight—100 of which were generously presented by the President, James Simonds, Esq.—have been placed in the Thames. The attempt to increase the stock of trout in the Thames has been carried on by this and kindred associations, despite much ridicule in the past; but no one now disputes the marvellous success of the work, which is especially apparent in this district, trout of large size having been this season literally caught by the hundred, whereas a few years ago a Thames trout was a great rarity. The number and size of the spawning trout in the Pang this winter has been remarkable, and in this connection the hearty thanks of the association are due to Mr. Stone, of Pangbourne Mill, who has courteously rendered every assistance in his power to promote the successful breeding of the fish in that stream. F. Wilder, Esq., of Purley Hall (one of your committee), at the beginning of the year, most kindly offered to the association the use of part of his stream for purposes of trout culture. Your committee are of opinion that it is very desirable to accept Mr. Wilder's offer, but they have been unable as yet to take any action in the matter, owing to want of funds. It is with the greatest satisfaction that your committee record the perfect success of the novel experiment of artificial perch breeding, carried out by them last spring at Caversham. Two "Lund" breeding boxes, constructed under the direction of Mr. L. Goodhind (one of your committee), were stocked with large perch from the Kennet, procured through the courtesy of W. H. Dunn, Esq., of Templeton, Hungerford, who most kindly and readily authorised the netting of his water for that purpose. The boxes were filled with fine spawn, literally all of which produced strong, healthy fry, to the number of not less than half-a-million, which will, no doubt, in a few years greatly improve the perch fishing in the Thames. This year a third "Lund" box has been placed at Sonning, Mr. Hull, of the French Horn, having undertaken the care of it; and the two boxes at Caversham will be again used. Of equal interest has been the introduction, in July last, of grayling to the Thames. This important experiment was rendered possible by the great kindness of Henry Collins, Esq. (hon. secretary of the Hungerford Fly-fishing Club, and a member of your Association), who presented to your committee seventeen brace of splendid grayling, which, despite great difficulties in transport, were most successfully placed in a suitable portion of the river, where, it is believed, they are thriving. Another gratifying feature in the improvement of the Thames fishery is the netting in June last, by the kind permission of J. F. Hall, Esq., of his lake at Earley Court, when about 100 fine stock carp were taken and placed in the river, and a quantity of carp-spawn was also secured, which most successfully hatched out in the Thames. The warm thanks of the Association and of the public will, your committee are sure, be accorded to Mr. Dunn, Mr. Collins, and Mr. Hall for their valuable gifts. —The President of the association occupied the chair, and Mr. H. Creed the vice-chair at the annual dinner, which took place at the Great Western Hotel at seven o'clock, and was most admirably served by Mr. W. G. Flanagan. In proposing the toast of "The Queen and the other Members of the Royal Family," the chairman referred to the extent to which the influence of Royalty had promoted the success of the Fisheries Exhibition. The vice-chairman proposed the toast of "The Sea and Land Forces." Admiral Elliot, who was very cordially received, said he felt that the objects of the association deserved the support of all who enjoyed the river. With their permission, he would reverse the order of the toast and first say a few words as to the reserve forces. Having strongly condemned the display of political feeling in regard to the awards meted out to the commanders who had served us in Egypt, Admiral Elliot concluded by saying that he was "bissed" the other day at Henley for expressing his views on the question of flogging; but he must repeat his opinion that that punishment was necessary to discipline. The Chairman said it was unfortunately necessary to omit the next toast from the list—"Fish culture," owing to the fact that Mr. R. B. Marston, who would have responded to it, was unable to be present. He had telegraphed that in trying to catch his train that day he had sprained his knee; and added that he wished a'l success to the dinner. The Chairman then proposed the toast of the evening, which he was sure would be met with the greatest enthusiasm, because it was that of prosperity to an association to which they nearly all belonged, and in which they were all interested—the Reading and District Angling Association. (Applause.) It was scarcely necessary for him, in that company, to state the objects of the association or the means employed to attain them. Having briefly referred to the question of public rights of fishing, Mr. Simonds said he had to couple with the toast the name of their worthy hon. secretary. He wished to bear his testimony to the indefatigable way in which Mr. Butler worked for the association; and to say that if there ever were a secretary who had fishing and the welfare of his association thoroughly at heart, it was he. (Applause.) Mr. Butler, in responding, said that after nearly seven years' service he had a real desire to resign the secretaryship; but he was so convinced of the good work the association was doing that, rather than it should suffer, he would gladly continue to do the work if no one came forward to take his place. (Applause.) He could not have carried on so long but that he had been cordially supported by the committee, and knew also that not only had the executive the hearty support of the members of the association, but the work of the association was becoming more and more appreciated, especially by the working men, as the success of that work became more apparent. The expressions he had received from working men were most encouraging to the society, and as long as that feeling existed he should be

only too happy to maintain it, and if possible to carry it further. (Hear, hear.) Having referred to the introduction of grayling (which were believed to be thriving) in the Thames and to the very successful operations carried on in perch culture, Mr. Butler said that some present might remember that at the last dinner he mentioned that by his advice a farmer at Cholsey four years ago put some yearling Wycombe trout into a stream running through his farm. The experiment cost only about £10. He was glad to say that the water now literally teemed with fine trout, up to 4 lbs. in weight, and that his friend would probably get at least £15 a year for the fishing if he chose to let it. (Applause.) That was only a small illustration of what might be done with our waste waters. There were countless miles of rivers and acres of lakes in this country now practically barren of fish life. There was no reason why our rivers and ponds should not be filled with good fish, which would not only afford sport, but would help materially the prosperity of the nation both physically and financially. The food question was a great question; and he very strongly desired to see a Government department of fish culture, as they had in Germany, the United States and Canada, in this country. He believed that in time, by that means, fresh water fish and the cheaper sea fish would be sold in the streets of our largely populated towns at 2d. a pound. What was needed was proper legislation and the better education of the public, and to that end he urged them to support the National Fish Culture Association of Great Britain, which had been formed to promote those aims. Let their aim be to do their utmost to promote good sport and cheap fish for the whole of the population. (Applause.) Mr. Ferguson then proposed the toast of "Kindred Associations." Mr. Lemann, Thames Angling Preservation and Maidenhead Societies, responded. He much regretted, as they all did, the absence of Mr. T. Spreckley, the worthy chairman of the Thames Angling Preservation Society, who had been expected to reply to that toast. He was sure the Reading Association was doing all it could and that in its work it was not equalled, or at any rate surpassed, by any other association. He regretted that the working men, though they so gladly shared in the advantages the improved angling afforded, did not contribute as they should to the funds of the preservation societies. (Applause.) Mr. Pulley proposed the toast of "The Visitors," in felicitous terms and coupled with it the names of Mr. J. H. Walters and Mr. H. J. Tibbatts (secretary of the West Central Association of London and Provincial Angling Societies), a society which had always rendered the Reading Association every assistance. (Applause.) Mr. Tibbatts, in reply, said the evening had been a most pleasurable one to him. He was very pleased that he had been placed on the committee of that association as representing the West Central Association; and he hoped he might often be able to come down to town and attend the committee meetings. (Applause.) Mr. Walters also replied. The toast of "The Press," was proposed by Mr. J. T. Brown. Mr. Biggs, in an able speech, proposed the health of the chairman, speaking of Mr. Simonds in terms of merited eulogy, and particularly calling attention to the hearty manner in which he supported not only the angling association, but also the football, rowing, athletic, and other clubs. The toast was received with cheers and musical honours. The Chairman, before returning thanks, stated that apologies for non-attendance had been received from the Mayor of Reading, Mr. George Palmer, M.P., and the other members of the association, who were not present. It gave him very great pleasure to be connected with that association, and to be of any service to it, for he had always found the members to be a band of hearty good fellows. He wished to take that public opportunity of thanking them for the handsome gift they made to his last child on the day of his christening. He would always be glad to do what he could for the association, and if Mr. Butler heard of any desirable fish at a fair cost, he should be glad to buy them to place in the Thames. (Cheers.) Mr. Hoffmann proposed the toast of "The Vice-Chairman," which was drunk with musical honours. Mr. Creed, in reply, said he thought an effort should be made to make the library of the club room more worthy of the Association, and he should be very pleased to present a copy of Houghton's "British Freshwater Fishes." (Applause.) Mr. Hoffmann, accepting Mr. Creed's challenge, at once rose and kindly offered to present an early and valuable edition of Walton and Cotton. During the evening some capital songs were given by Messrs. T. J. Pulley, L. Goodhind, J. M. Dormor, F. Brown, S. Bradley, T. J. Cottrell, J. W. Appelbee, and J. Freeman (who also kindly acted as accompanist).

NOTES AND QUERIES.

RECIPE FOR PREPARATION TO MEND INDIARUBBER GOODS WITH.

This is from our American contemporary, the *American Field*.—The following simple recipe for mending rubber boots may be found worth remembering: Cut virgin or native indiarubber with a wet knife into the thinnest possible slices, and with shears divide these into threads as fine as fine yarn. Put a small quantity of the shreds (say one-tenth or less of the capacity of the bottle) into a wide-mouthed bottle, and fill it three-quarters full of benzine of good quality, perfectly free from oil. The rubber will swell up almost immediately, and in a few days, especially if often shaken, assumes the consistency of honey. If it inclines to remain in undissolved masses, more benzine must be added; but if too thin and watery, it needs more rubber. A piece of solid rubber the size of a walnut will make a pint of the cement. This cement dries in a few minutes, and by using three coats in the usual manner, will unite leather straps, patches, rubber soles, backs of boots, &c., with exceeding firmness. Let some of your many readers try this and report results. PIN PAUL.

ILLEGAL FISHING.—Henry Lee, a respectably-dressed pensioner, who displayed on his breast several English and Turkish medals, was charged at the Barnard Castle Police Court with catching two trout the day before the time for trout fishing commenced.—He pleaded that he lived by the river side, and caught the fish from the land on which his house stood, and also in ignorance of the fact that the fish were not in season.—Mr. Scarth, the presiding magistrate, said defendant had committed the offence with his eyes open, as he had before obtained several printed forms giving him permission to fish, which showed all the rules relating to the seasons. In future he would never have the chance of fishing there again.—Defendant: But am I trespassing in fishing from my own house?—Mr. Scarth: Yes; you are most certainly trespassing when you fish without leave on the Duke of Cleveland's side of the river.—Lee was fined 5s. and costs.

NOTICES OF FLIES, &c.

NOTES ON FLIES FOR CHALK STREAMS.

LAST spring, when I endeavoured to give a description of fishing in chalk streams, I was told that I had made a grave omission in not giving full hints and details about the favourite flies. For my own part, I think such items would have been out of place in the articles referred to; but, as I have frequently been urged during the last few months to describe the most useful flies and the way to dress them, I venture to offer the following notes, not intending them to be in any way exhaustive, but sufficient, I hope, to guide one who is strange to Hampshire, and to enable him to equip himself with such flies as most Southern anglers consider necessary. With regard to a general *modus operandi* of fly-making I have little to say here. I still abide by my opinions expressed in a letter on fly-tying in the GAZETTE of November 25th, 1882; and, although the method there described was intended for flies of the ephemeral class, I often tie the sedge, cinnamon, and other flat-winged flies in this manner. I know that some anglers will dissent from this, saying that the Phryganidæ have their wings sloping on the back, and that we cannot improve on nature. But the fact is, the best flies are those which float best, and my experience leads me to think that a sedge tied with wings set up is more buoyant and fishes better than one dressed more closely in imitation of the natural insect. I cannot believe that a trout takes notice of the slope of a fly's wings; and the sedge, bushy with hackle and upright wings, floating dry over a rising fish, is far more likely to be successful than the most natural-looking specimen, which declines to float except in a sodden and half-submerged state. Moreover, the Phryganidæ on the water are not quiescent like the duns—they flutter and caper about a good deal; and this is another reason why, in my opinion, the flat-winged artificial is not always a better killer because it is true to nature, the outstanding hackle and wings being perhaps the best representation we can give of that fluttering motion.

The best of all flies for a chalk stream is the olive dun. Perhaps I should say "the olives," as a class subject to considerable variation in size and colour, which may be used, to some extent, every day of the season. When I first knew Hampshire, the olive dun was a silk-bodied fly, with or without gold rib or gold tag, but recently quill bodies have come into favour and supplanted the silk. There are so many good patterns, that I think it will be well to give a few in full, with numbers; and, for convenience of reference, I give details in a tabulated form. I refer to eyed-hooks in all cases.

I.—OLIVE DUN.

Hook, o and oo.

- (1) Body: olive silk. I know nothing better than Mr. Aldam's "gosling green, but it wants most delicate handling, and great care should be taken not to have too much wax on the tying silk, or it will darken the floss and spoil the fly. A ribbing of fine gold wire is an improvement.

Wings: dark starling.

Legs and whisks: hackle stained olive—not too yellow, but a dull-brown olive.

- (2) Body: quill dyed olive, with or without gold tag. Wings and hackle as before. This pattern admits of several shades, and is, perhaps, the best all-round pattern that can possibly be used in Hampshire, from one end of the season to the other. It is always worth a trial. It is sold in thousands, and slays its thousands every year.
- (3) The same pattern as the last, with light brown fibres of hare's fur tied in for legs. Very good in April, and an excellent floater.
- (4) Body: leveret's fur dyed olive, ribbed with gold wire. Hackle and wings as before. This is known as the "rough spring olive." A useful variety.
- (5) THE INDIARUBBER BODIED OLIVE DUN.—I put this last, because it is a fly which hitherto has not been accessible to all; indeed, I am not sure that it has been made for sale at all before this season, and I have only seen it in use among a few of my friends who got their patterns either from me, or Mr. Marryat, of Winchester celebrity. These detached bodied duns were described by me in the GAZETTE of March 3rd, 1883, and I there stated that the notion of indiarubber was suggested by a friend. Mr. Marryat was, I believe, the first to use rubber in this way, while I was the first to make trial of the flies, and prove their value. We had both used horsehair bodies with success at different times, while Mr. Aldam's delicate horsehair patterns did execution years before I ever tied a fly. But for the early April

olive, I prefer the rubber detached bodied pattern to any other. I shall never forget April 17th, 1882, on the Winnal Club water, when, after trying the usual favourites in vain over several rising fish, I put on the new pattern and hooked nine fish very quickly on a short length of water. The fly is made lighter or darker according to the colour of the rubber, and wings and hackle must be chosen to match the body. The hackle should be of a brownish olive to harmonise with the body, which, when held up to the light, has a translucent appearance, as like to the body of a natural dun as it is possible to obtain. It is only in the early spring that I ever do much with this fly, and then I use it on a No. o hook. It is extremely difficult to tie it small and delicate enough for summer use, but I have killed with it in August on a ooo, the smallest size made. For late summer and autumn I generally adopt horsehair bodies, as the hair can be dyed different shades, and can be used of a pale watery hue which cannot be got in indiarubber. I am never without a few of these detached bodied duns, and they have again and again procured me sport when all else failed; but it must be distinctly understood that they are only killing because of their close resemblance in colour and transparency to the natural insect. Some people seem to think that it is the detached projecting body which makes the fly attractive, and so they tie detached bodies of quill and silk, which are, of course, dull and opaque, and very inferior to hair or rubber. In fact, I consider it is labour wasted to tie detached bodies except of translucent material; and if silk or quill be used, it is far better to use it on the hook in the ordinary way. I make one exception in favour of some Indian yellows Mrs. Cox had made by Mr. Aldam's instructions. No other silk detached bodies I have ever seen are worth a rush.

II.—HARE'S EAR.

Hook, o or oo.

- (1) Body: hare's fur ribbed with gold, and fibres picked out for legs, winged with dark starling. This fly is a great favourite on the Test. I prefer a smoother-bodied fly, as—
- (2) Body: yellow silk, slightly waxed. Hare's fur tied in at shoulder for legs. Wings as before.

III.—THE RED QUILL, GREY QUILL, AND GINGER QUILL,

Hook, o or oo, usually the smaller size.

These flies are always useful, and they only differ in the colour of the hackle and whisks, though there is room for variety, if it be desirable, in the choice of quill. The red one has—

Body: undyed quill.

Legs and whisks: red hackle.

Wings: darkish starling. The grey and ginger are generally dressed with lighter wings.

IV.—THE "LITTLE MARRYAT."

This fly is well known at Winchester, and its name explains its origin. It is chiefly useful dressed small from May to September; but I remember fishing on the Itchen one bright day in April when a pattern on a No. o accounted for seven brace of trout to Mr. Marryat's rod, while I was trying other flies without success. This is the dressing:

Body: very pale buff opossum fur spun on light yellow silk.

Wings: medium starling.

Legs and whisks: the palest feather from a buff Cochinchina cockerel.

V.—THE IRON BLUE.

This fly comes out thick on some parts of the Test; it is less common on the Itchen, and in some places it is rarely seen at all. When it does come out the fish generally refuse everything else. It varies a good deal in colour, but I believe the best general dressing to be:

Body: quill, either peacock or condor (if it can be got), dyed a dark blue with a violet shade. Some prefer mauve silk with mole's fur.

Legs and whisks: dark honey dun, the natural fly having yellow tips to its dusky blue legs.

Wings: from the breast of a water hen, or from the tail feather of the greater titmouse.

VI.—THE RED-SPINNER.

On a warm, sunny April day this fly is useful in the late afternoon and early evening. The best pattern I know is as follows:

Body: quill dyed in Judson's light brown.

Wings: two hackle points chosen from bright, shiny cock's feather with golden tips.

Legs and whisks : a red hackle (not very bright), with a black central rib. The natural fly has a thick shoulder and thorax which is unmistakably black. Hook o and oo.

There is another spinner often useful. We call it the white-tailed spinner. I am not sure whether it is a distinct fly from that last named or not. I am inclined to think it is the olive dun when it first changes its coat. Its prevailing colour is a subdued darkish olive with a black thorax. The legs of a neutral tint corresponding to the shade of the body, while the whisks are white, and there is a white spot at the extreme tip of the body.

A suitable quill may be found by taking one of the lower fibres from the long tail feather of a peacock. Wind it on so as to show two turns of white on the tail end of the hook.

VII.—THE BADGER QUILL.

This, I believe, represents the white-tailed spinner; but as it is the only fly dressed buzz, I give it a separate notice.

Body : greenish olive quill with a couple of white turns at the tail.

Legs and wings : a badger hackle—that is to say, a hackle with rusty grey centre and bright, shining yellowish grey points. The feathers are not easy to get. It does well also with a quill body dyed in Judson's light red.

Hook, o and oo.

VIII.—THE WICKHAM'S FANCY.

This fly is now so well known that it hardly needs description. I consider it the best of all fancy flies, and it should be kept in several sizes from oo to 1 or 2. Whenever the fly is scanty or uncertain the Wickham is useful; if a stubborn old trout has refused all your delicate duns and spinners, try a Wickham; and in rough, wet weather, when dry fly fishing is hopeless, the attractive Wickham is sometimes capable of digging up a few trout from the weedy depths when they can be tempted by nothing else. It should be made as follows :

Body : gold tinsel ribbed from tail to head with red cock's hackle.

Wings : dark starling. Landrail makes a nice variety.

H. S. HALL.

(To be continued.)

THE "PREMIER" SPINNER.

MR. JAMES OGDEN, of 28, Winchcomb Street, Cheltenham, sends us samples of his new "Premier Spinner," made in several sizes—the largest for pike and salmon, the others for trout and perch. The name of the artificial spinning bait is "Legion," and when we say that we think this new one will take its place among the limited few which are really good for anything, we make a rather bold statement. It is a good heavy bait, and spins from the tail by a new arrangement. Mr. Ogden says :—"I am daily receiving most favourable reports of its success; I certainly never saw its equal to spin. I have tried it several times, and have now every confidence in saying that I never used a spinner with better results. I find it impossible for the fish to strike it without getting hooked." It is a bait we can confidently recommend, and would only suggest to Mr. Ogden that, in addition to the silver and gold-coloured bodies, he should have one with an olive-brown back and milk-white belly—like a minnow or fry, in fact.

A NEW "STRIKE FROM THE WINCH" REEL.

Mr. Reuben Heaton, wholesale maker of reels of all kinds at 161 to 165, Hospital Street, Birmingham, is an old reader of the FISHING GAZETTE, and seeing that we had often lamented the want of a silent check winch which could be regulated to any degree of pull, he set about to make one, and called on us the other day with a sample of it. It is just the very thing we asked for for fly fishing for trout, as you can easily so "set" the action as to get as much or as little silent check as you want. We have made silent checks of our own at various times, and seen others; but this one (patented) is by far the best, because most simple of all—no springs to get out of order, and no double case needed—nothing to be seen, in fact, but a little metal nut and two screws. The action is direct, scientific, simple, and will last as long as the winch, and longer.

A clergyman writes to us to-day, saying, "Kindly inform me how you 'strike from the winch,' using Gossamer gut?" We have once or twice described this, but it is so simple we will do it again.

Use a winch which has a very gentle check on it. This check must only be sufficient to prevent the line unwinding when you, in casting 15 yards or so of line, propel it forward or recover from the water; but if the line catches in anything, or you strike a fish, the winch must allow the line to run off a little. Of course

you do not hold the line in any way, and it should be passed out of the winch, *not* between the rod and the first winch bar, but between the first winch bar and the second or lowest one. This may seem a little matter, but it simply reduces the friction on the line 50 per cent. A few years ago if anyone had told us that not to hold the line, but strike from the winch, was the best plan of the two *in every way*, we should have thought he knew nothing about it.

GUISE AND CO.'S NEW HOOK HOLDER.

Messrs. Guise and Co., of Redditch, have brought out an improved paper hook-holder, which needs only to be seen to be at once appreciated both by the trade and by anglers. It is so simple that the only wonder is it has never been adopted before. The nuisance of hooks catching in each other, in the gut coils, &c., is entirely obviated by this little paper triangular-shaped bag, with envelope flap and slit. The ordinary plan is to fold a bit of paper round the hooks; but this very soon comes off, as every angler knows who has rushed in to a shop to get a half dozen roach or perch hooks when on his way to catch a train. The No. 12 have got mixed up with other sizes, and the time required to disentangle them has caused the loss of many an hour's fishing. But with Mr. Guise's "Registered" holder a hundred lots of hooks might be shaken up in a bag for a week without possibility of entanglement. We could hardly have imagined that a square inch of paper could be made so useful.

BROWN'S PHANTOM MINNOW.

In his charming work, "By Lake and River," Mr. Francis Francis says :—"I looked up my old acquaintance, Mr. Brown, the inventor of the phantom minnow, which is the best artificial bait ever yet invented." This is high praise from such an authority. We must confess our own experience has not been so satisfactory quite, probably because, preferring a bait with the weight in it and not requiring lead on the trace, we have not used it so often as the Devon, the Derby, and one or two others. For loch fishing the phantom certainly is the best artificial spinning bait for salmon and trout, and we know many anglers who consider it far and away the best for any water. Mr. Brown's patterns are beautifully made and mounted; they can be had at most of our best tackle houses.

SALMON FLIES FOR THE DEE.

Mr. Wm. Brown, of 36, George Street, Aberdeen, sends us some samples of his celebrated salmon flies. He says :—"Of course, I shall be only too glad if you will take any notice of my flies, of which I inclose a few of the sizes in actual use on our river. They are dressed upon long shank hooks, now very common here, but first introduced by old William Brown, my predecessor here. I need scarcely bother you with a dressing description. Your correspondent here has given most of them in the GAZETTE, and is, I believe, to give more. If you should go to the Tay, notwithstanding the prejudice of the local anglers, you might give the salmon there an offer of them." We live in hopes of fulfilling Mr. B.'s suggestion before long. The flies sent are the tartan, Gordon, grey heron, killer, Ackroyd, Gardener, white eagle, and yellow eagle. They are all extremely well made, "business-like" flies. The "eagles" especially are great favourites. "You are surely not going to put that lovely fly in the water, it is too nice—how beautiful it will look in my bonnet," is the exclamation of the editorial better half on seeing the white eagle; and truly it is a gorgeous fly, and looks exactly like a little salmon-parr as you draw it with a gentle intermittent movement through the water. No salmon would dream such a fairy-like thing contained such a sting! Our Aberdeen correspondent, in his most valuable and interesting notes, has referred fully to these and other Dee flies, and we hope will continue his descriptions.

McNEE'S PIKE SCALE FLIES.

Mr. J. McNee, of Bohally, Pitlochry, N.B., sends us a few of his flies on eyed hooks. We have so often referred to them as being most deadly killers, that we need not say more than that they are an improvement on any we have yet had from Mr. McNee, and he says he finds he can fasten the wings much more firmly on the eyed-hooks. Our favourite pattern, a little hare's ear dun, he has christened the "Marston," probably because we always order it when sending for any of his flies. We have found it kill well in all kinds of water, and at all times of the season. It closely resembles many of the duns which are always found on the water at some time of the year.

Mr. J. Palmer, of Littleworth, Redditch, writes : "I inclose three of my flies, such as I advertise in your paper, and hope you may consider them worth a notice. I have already many customers for them." We certainly never before saw flies so well made as these, at the price—viz., 8d. per dozen. The gut is fine and the hooks of good quality. They appear to be Ronald's patterns.

NOTICES OF BOOKS, &c.

LITTLE'S ANGLERS' ANNUAL AND FISHING
DIRECTORY.*

GOOD advice is often given but rarely taken—at any rate, rarely acted upon; but we think it will not be the case in the present instance. We advise every reader of these lines to send the sum of one shilling and twopence to Messrs. G. Little and Co., of 15, Fetter Lane, London, for a copy of "Little's Anglers' Annual Directory for 1884." Our reason for giving this advice is because we do not suppose there is a single reader of this paper who, if he acts upon it, will not thank us for our recommendation. It might be imagined that a work of this kind issued by a fishing-tackle firm would be merely a trade catalogue in disguise; but in all its 200 and more large, closely-printed pages, we have not come across a single reference to the firm or their goods. It is entirely devoted to the following matters:—

The Waters of England and Wales. The system adopted is the very convenient one of arranging the information under the names of the different counties in alphabetical order; an evidently most carefully-compiled list of the fishing places in the county is given, with particulars as to the nature of the fishing, if free or otherwise, hotels, inns, &c., prefaced by a well-written description of the fishing generally. For example, "Berkshire," occupies about eight closely-printed columns devoted chiefly to the Thames and its tributaries, preceded by a page of general information about this most fishful county, its protection associations, &c. "Cumberland" occupies three pages; "Buckinghamshire" two, and soon. We have tested the correctness of the particulars given in many instances where we are acquainted with the fishing, and have found them almost invariably reliable and written to date. We well know the difficulty of obtaining reliable information, and are prepared to make allowances for errors inseparable from a work of this kind, extending as this does to references to over two thousand fishing stations, towns, and waters.

This "Directory" of places where fishing can be had is the most valuable part of the work; indeed, it is chiefly this which leads us to recommend it so strongly as we have done, and we must not forget to add that every river, broad, lake, or place mentioned in the 100 pages of this part of the work is referred to in the copious index at the end. You want to know what fishing is to be had on the Eden in Cumberland, the Coquet in Northumberland, the Darent in Kent, the Test in Hampshire, the Exe and Barle in Somersetshire, the Usk in Brecknockshire, and at Salisbury, Uxbridge, Yarmouth, or in almost any place you may think of going to, and you have only to look up the name in the index to get what you want—or, at all events, sufficient to enable you to obtain further particulars. We imagine that what we have already said will lead most of our readers to think, "This is just what I need." And in addition to this they will get the latest list of the London and Provincial Angling Associations; a list of the Fishery Districts of England and Wales, giving the rivers in each district, the name of the secretary or clerk to the Board, the license duties on trout and salmon rods, the close times, &c.; a list of stations, with the fares to which anglers' privilege tickets are granted by the following railways—Great Eastern, Great Northern, Great Western, London and North-Western, London and South-Western, Midland, and other lines; baits, recipes, &c.; full descriptions of the National Fish Culture Association, The West Central Association, The Thames Conservancy and their now celebrated By-laws, the Thames Angling Preservation Society, and other Conservancies, Associations, Societies, &c.; an account of the Great International Fisheries Exhibition, with the "List of Awards"; articles on "Salmon and Apprentices' Indentures," by Mr. Frank Gosden (very interesting); Professor Jordan's paper on "The History of a Salmon"; "Thames Trout Thoughts," by the Editor (very practical and pleasant); Tide Tables; a Piscatorial Calendar for the year; and other matters.

In fact, we cordially congratulate Messrs. Little and Co. on their enterprise in producing such a wonderful shillingsworth, and Mr. Bromhead, the Editor, on the very admirable manner in which he has done his work. We may accept his invitation to his readers to make any suggestions or corrections that occur to them. Here are one or two to begin with: A table of contents, though not really necessary considering the copious index, would be an additional advantage, as showing at a glance the nature of the matter and the order in which it is placed; a list of fish-culture establishments in England and Wales; an Anglers' Map of England and Wales, giving the rivers and stations mentioned

* LITTLE'S ANGLERS' ANNUAL AND FISHING DIRECTORY: Comprising Articles and Practical Information on all matters relating to Fish and Fishing, 1884. Edited by H. B. Bromhead (Diomed). G. Little and Co., 15, Fetter Lane, London, E.C. Price 1s.

in the work—this, of course, could not be given with the shilling edition unless the demand becomes as large as we hope it may be; but no angler would grudge an extra sixpence for such a map.

We have only one fault to find, and that is rather a serious one. No work of this kind could have been compiled without material assistance from previously published Guides, Fisheries Directories, Handbooks, &c.; but we cannot find any acknowledgment of the use, and in some cases very free use, which has been made of these. We attribute this to inadvertence rather than to intention; of course, it does not detract from the practical value of the work, but it is a little matter which literary etiquette requires should be put right.

MESSRS. ABBEY, IMBRIE, AND Co., of 48, Maiden Lane, New York, U. S. A., send us "An Illustrated Catalogue and Price List of Fine Fishing Tackle," manufactured by them. It contains nearly 100 plates—size, 9 inches by 6 inches—of illustrations of rods, hooks, reels, baits, &c., beautifully executed; in fact, this catalogue is honourable testimony to the interest our American cousins take in angling.

THE TROUT RIVERS AND STREAMS OF ABERDEENSHIRE.
THE DON.

AFTER an absence of nearly two months, during the transitional period from winter to spring, we return once more with pleasure to the green banks and variegated scenery of the trout-producing, tortuous Don. We say with pleasure, because whenever fitting opportunity offers, nothing affords us more delight than to be able to direct the genuine lover of the gentle art to some fresh field—some excellent trout stream where exercise and change are certain to invigorate mind and body, and success beget contentment. That full contentment is rarely, if ever, an integral part of the angler's share of this world's blessings we dare to affirm with all due deference; yet there are many streams in the counties of Aberdeen, Banff, and Kincardine, from which, when "plying the lithe rod and line," such results can be obtained as will be amply sufficient to afford reasonable satisfaction. Ever emulous of others, and ever eager to outshine, if possible, his former records, the real enthusiast, buoyed by hope and impelled by expectancy, with "patient angle" still pursues his favourite pastime. On a fine April day, when the west winds ripple the pools, what recreation than trouting more health-giving or delightful! Casting the line with the utmost precision—the best possible intention—we await the accomplishment of our object—the response to our invitation. Though using metaphor we are not misunderstood, for we know quite well that your readers—your English readers especially who can afford the time—will not allow April's breezy noons to steal along unnoticed, unimproved, and as of no account. The season is fast approaching when the blithe carol of the lark and the notes of the merle and mavis will impel our footsteps to the meadow and the streams. It is pardonable, therefore, if we adjudge it opportune to commence in the present number of the FISHING GAZETTE the first of a series of articles, having a general reference to the rivers and rivulets of Aberdeenshire and their sport-affording qualities. And first and foremost we will notice the Don, solely on account of its premier position as a trout stream in the earlier part of the season. A descriptive outline of this river having being given some time ago, your readers would no doubt consider it tiresome as well as unnecessary were we to presume further on their good nature by offering any additional remarks of a similar character. It behoves us, therefore, to enter into details—to treat of particulars rather than generalities. To know a stream, to tread its banks and try its pools is one thing; to write concerning it, to enter into the minutiae, to present the various points worth knowing with such clearness and fidelity as will enable the unacquainted to see it in precisely the same light is quite another thing; and here our difficulty arises. We therefore ask the sympathetic forbearance of your readers.

The Don, it may be remarked at the outset, is not a navigable river. A silting sandy bar at its entrance, and the short distance its tidal waters extend, render any navigation, except of very small craft, altogether out of the question. After passing the handsome new bridge, a short distance from the Granite City, its waters intersect a sandy flat for about half a mile, and fall into the German Ocean at the northern extremity of Aberdeen Bay. About four hundred yards farther up the river than the Bridge of Don is that venerable and antique construction, the Brig o' Balgownie, concerning which Thomas the Rhymer gave vent to the well-known effusion:—

"Brig o' Balgownie wight be thy wa',
Wi' a wife's a' son, and a mare's a' foal,
Doon thou shalt fa'."

At this point the scenery is lovely and picturesque. The bridge spans a deep, dark pool, the habitat of large yellow trout, and the resting-place of salmon in their river ascent. If we look for sport in the immediate vicinity, it is necessary for us to hie to the lower side of the bridge. Here, when the tide is low, we have some beautiful streamy water, and, in the proper season, every likelihood of obtaining a good basket. Finnick's or whiting abound hereabout, moving up and down with the tide. They average in weight about three-quarters of a pound. In March and April they are especially plentiful, and good sport during these months is the rule rather than the exception. Moving up with an incoming or following down a receding tide is the most recognised method for obtaining good results. For whiting fishing, the morning, when the tide is suitable, is held to be the best time. On the Dee we have caught one at almost every cast just as the first rays of the sun were glistening on the water. On the Don, at the particular place we are speaking of, 30 to 40 nice specimens are frequently got in a couple of hours' fishing.

In the fall of the year the average weight is much greater, and the quality of the finnick's incomparably better. A good many of those caught in the spring are spent. The latter half of September, and all the month of October, have a reputation superior in every way to August and the first half of September, i.e., when the season is an ordinary one. In autumn the trout are not usually so early on the feed as in spring—the best baskets are generally got in the evening. On the reach we are noticing the fishing is not so good above the old

bridge as between that point and the mouth of the river. The Nether Don proprietors rest a claim to the fishing and the letting of tickets—20 at two guineas each for the whole season is vested in their agents, Messrs. Reid and Wilson, advocates, Union Street, Aberdeen. We have heard that, though the number is fully taken up at most times, the agents are not averse to stretch a point in order to accommodate their clients. The length of the fishery is about a mile and a quarter, and the City of Aberdeen, from the farther end, is almost a similar distance. Yellow trout, ranging from 5 to 10 lb., are frequently got in the stake nets along the coast; but they are rarely captured in the river hereabout. Though abundant in the fresh water, and the variety of lures presented to them of no end, they are shy and ill to please. On the upper portion of this water in the autumn good sport with salmon is sometimes enjoyed, but all that are taken have to be given up to those in charge of the various beats. Finnick or whittling fishing may therefore be said to be the only thing upon which the angler can centre his expectations. It is really very good sport, but we have something much better in view at Grandholm, Parashill, Fintry, Kintore, &c., which we will refer to in our next article. If any members of the trout angling brotherhood desire to hear of something worth knowing, they had better be on the outlook—fully equipped and ready to come on before the season is too far advanced. Let them bring fine tackle, a clear eye, and a keen sense of touch—a 16 foot rod, sweet and supple. This is our recommendation for Don trout-*ing*. The lures most in favour with the tidal water fishers are various creepers, the clear Devon, brown and white tubes (first introduced, we believe, some 15 years ago by Mr. Wm. Garden, Aberdeen), a few flies of the “priest,” black and red spider, and other common order patterns. The flies are most used when the lengthening day and old Sol’s influence take the chill somewhat off the water. May, June, July, and the first half of August are little worth, except very late or very early, when the tide is suitable.

Culter burn.—A capital day’s sport—trout fishing free—can be had on this rivulet in April and May. Eight miles from Aberdeen, by the Deeside line—from 4 to 5 miles of beautiful stream, easily accessible. It is a tributary of the Dee, but more regarding its general features on another occasion. Now for a slight digression before finishing, which we hope will be pardonable.

We observed with pleasure Mr. Wm. Brown’s (?) “Scotch Note” in the columns of last week’s *GAZETTE*. It is a very hopeful sign to find our local tackle-makers showing some spirit. We respectfully tender the assurance that a few wrinkles from them can at no time come amiss. As we have not seen any of Mr. Brown’s patterns this season we found ourselves unable to refer to them in our previous articles. This we regret. However, when minnow-fishing is under review we promise to give his phantom minnows a touching-up. Like Mr. B., it has been our good fortune to have the invitation extended to us by several gentlemen to take a cast for salmon on their private waters—some of the very best on the Dee. When time admits, need we say, all such kindly offers are accepted with delight. We do not boast our records, though we invariably manage, if a fair day is our lot, to secure a certain amount of patronage from our salmonide friends.

N.B.—In our notice of standard spring patterns we observe that a slight typographical error—the substitution of “K” for “R”—makes “Rintoul” read “Kintoul.” With regard to this fly, we may state that the original pattern was supplied us by Mr. Rintoul, Crathes Castle, a Dee angler of 50 years’ experience. It is a very excellent lure, and one we have done good execution with. Mr. R. informs us that when fishing an excellent pool—Buhoar—he has often seated himself on a stone lighted his pipe, and revolved in his mind what he would try next—the fish being fastidious in their choice. Bethinking a trial of his favourite might answer the purpose, it was brought into play as a last resource, and the spell broken in a twinkling. In this connection we may mention incidentally that two salmon were taken down the rapids into this pool last autumn—a feat hitherto deemed almost impossible—and successfully landed, the one by R. M. Knowles, Esq., London, and the other (22 lb.) by W. M.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF CONSERVATORS OF THE TRENT FISHERY BOARD.

THE annual meeting of this Board was held at the Queen’s Hotel, Burton-on-Trent, on Thursday, the 21st February, at which the following Conservators were present:—J. H. Towle, Esq. (in the chair), Colonel Hutton, Captain Dawson, A. Worthington, Esq., Major Holmes, Rev. E. Lane, and W. Wright, Esq. The following gentlemen were also present:—A. F. Hurt, Esq., Major Pountain, C. F. Roe, Esq., T. Wood, Esq., Mr. Cadman, and others.

The report of the year 1883 was read by the clerk, Mr. Eddowes, and contained full particulars of the working of the district, and may be summarised as follows:—

SALMON AND TROUT.

The take of salmon by nets has been a considerable increase as compared with that of last year, the number taken being about 800, and giving an average weight of 12 lb. The take by rod and line has been exceptionally large, as the number reported is 250, most of which were taken in the neighbourhood of Shardlow, King’s Mill, and Willington. No disease has shown itself anywhere in the district. Large quantities of salmon have been taken illegally from the spawning beds, and the parties offending have been convicted. Trout-fishing has been satisfactory throughout the whole district.

COMPLAINTS AND OFFENCES.

The Board has had brought to its notice no less than 87 complaints and offences, and has procured 34 convictions. Several cases of the use of lime have been reported, and the Board has decided to offer a reward of £10 to anyone giving such evidence as will lead to a conviction. Dynamite has also been used with very destructive results. The decision in the case of *Swanwick v. Briggs*, reported in Vol. 52 *Law Journal Reports*, page 63, M.C., in favour of the Board, was reported.

LICENSES.

The licenses issued for salmon have produced £109 10s., and those for trout £192 9s.

POLLUTIONS.

Several complaints of pollution were mentioned, amongst others Burton-on-Trent, Buxton, Leek, and Derby. It was reported that the Buxton Sewage Works were making good progress.

A memorial was read, most influentially signed by riparian owners and others in the vicinity of the River Churnet, including the Marquis of Stafford, the Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot, John Robinson, Esq., Augustus Colville, Esq., Thomas Redfern, Esq., Hyde Smith, Esq., H. L. Johnson, Esq., W. Sneyd, Esq., Dryden Sneyd, Esq., T. Phillips, Esq., Charles Bill, Esq., John Brierley, Esq. (agent for the Earl of Mansfield), the Rev. G. H. Davenport, and others, calling attention to the polluted state of the River Churnet at Leek and Leekbrook by the discharge into that river of refuse from the several dye and print works, and the sewage from the town of Leek, and asking the Board to cause an inquiry to be made into the matter. It was resolved that this Board fully recognises the existence of pollution, and the unsatisfactory condition produced by it in the River Churnet, and will be prepared to support the memorialists in any action which may be taken.

Mr. Hibbert’s Bill for amending the “Freshwater Fisheries Act,” 1878, having been referred to, resolved that a representation be made that this Board considers that the size of the mesh for cleach nets shall be not less than 2½ inches from knot to knot.

Mr. Towle was appointed auditor in the place of the late Mr. Fox.

An application was made with reference to the alteration of close time in trout streams. Ordered that as different times were proposed for different streams, the matter should stand over.

Lord Vernon and Mr. A. F. Hurt were nominated conservators for Derbyshire, Mr. G. W. Pochin for Leicestershire, and Mr. A. Worthington for Warwickshire. Several subscriptions were promised, and the proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

CLUB AND OTHER JOTTINGS.

By L. B.

ABOUT as indifferent a general fishing season was brought to a close on the 14th inst. as it has been anglers’ lot to witness for several years; and so, for three long months the coarse-fish anglers’ occupation will be gone; not but that they will all find something to do to while away the tedium of waiting. There’s all the tackle to refit, the lines to overhaul, the rods to re-varnish and re-whip, new fishing-places to discover; and lastly, though not least for society’s men, the annual club dinners—great institutions, and long may they flourish! They serve the same purpose whether they are the annual celebration of the lordly “Hectorials,” held at the Holborn Restaurant, and consisting of an exhaustive and recherché menu, or the homely “spread” of the “Undaunted Tiders,” held at the society’s club-house in an East-end street—viz., the promotion of good fellowship, the bringing together of all the members of a society as they could not otherwise well be brought, and offering them a chance of heartily acknowledging the efforts of their secretary, chairman, and officers generally, while these in turn have an opportunity of which they almost invariably avail themselves, of saying something to promote, in a practical manner, angling institutions and interest, as many a grant to the Anglers’ Benevolent Society, the river preservation societies, or some equally deserving object will testify. Is it possible to go from angling-club dinners without saying a few words about club prizes? I am afraid to do so would be to ignore, from false delicacy, a great feature connected with these celebrations. About club prizes—let me be well understood. I believe that a few well-arranged prizes are a first-rate thing in an angling society; but it has been clearly proved past all denying that prize-giving and winning, like many other things good in themselves, can be overdone. Money prizes are a mistake, and so are the rules that allow the taking by one individual of an unlimited number of prizes, whether in kind or money. Again, the rule that allows the giving away of the bulk, sometimes after paying unavoidable working expenses, of nearly the whole of the club’s annual income is fundamentally wrong.

I should like to have the opinions of others as well able as myself to judge of this question, and I shall be pleased to maintain my views, founded as they are upon the practical experience of years, against anyone willing to break a lance in the Correspondence columns of the *FISHING GAZETTE*.

The monthly meeting of the West Central Association of London and Provincial Angling Societies was to take place on Friday evening, 21st inst., at the Portman Arms, Great Quebec Street, Baker Street, Mr. L. Bonvoisin in the chair, who, it was generally understood, would not stand for re-election, and as the president occupies the chair at the annual meeting in April, this would be Mr. Bonvoisin’s last appearance in office, and conjecture is rife as to who is likely to be his successor.

Re Angling Slang, “Chucking a bug” certainly does not sound so elegant to British ears as “casting a fly”; but I believe “bug” is the generic American term for almost anything in the insect world that flies or creeps, and not almost exclusively reserved, as with us, for one objectionable specimen of the insect family. “Chuck,” on the other hand, is not slang at all (though not by any means elegant or musical), and has, with other meanings (vide Nuttall) to pitch—as nearly as possible synonymous with throw or cast, which, I believe, are generally considered orthodox. Again, to describe trout as “spotted beauties” is certainly as expressive and correct as to refer to a woman as a “fair daughter of Eve,” or to giants as “sons of Anak.”

“Shop” for swim, “tapping” for catching, “hang on” for biting, etc., belong, however, to another category, are all slang pure and simple, and therefore their general use is very undesirable.

Re the Hoole Testimonial, the following circular has been issued, and I hope to be able to announce in an early number full particulars as to when and where this interesting presentation will take place:—

WEST CENTRAL ASSOCIATION OF LONDON AND PROVINCIAL ANGLING SOCIETIES.

March 11th, 1884.

TESTIMONIAL TO MR. T. HOOLE.

DEAR SIR,

Monday, the 31st inst., has been fixed by the Committee for the final closing of this Fund, and in the event of your Society being desirous of contributing to same, I shall be obliged if you will kindly let me have remittance on or before that date.

I am, Dear Sir,

Yours very truly,

LEO. BONVOISIN,

Hon. Sec.

62, Swinton Street, Gray’s Inn Road, W.C.

A WINTRY REMINISCENCE.

BY THE "MEDWAY DACE."

"It's all very well to talk, but all the talking in the world won't make your nasty fishing any the less a nuisance—and Boxing Day beyond all others! I certainly think you must be fishing mad. Well, you need not think I am going to put you up any "grub," as you vulgarly call it; I should consider myself encouraging you in your insanity. And then, just look at the fog—enough to give you your death to go standing on a nasty, wretched, muddy bank all day in such weather."

"But, my dear, because it is foggy now it does not necessarily follow that it will be foggy to-morrow. And then, remember, I have promised H—g to go, and I can't very well get out of it now."

"Can't get out of it. Won't, you mean. Not that I wish you to break your word with your friend, but I must say you might think a little before making such absurd arrangements as this. However, I suppose you, as usual, will persist in doing everything you can to annoy me. You will find the beef and cold chicken in the pantry; your whisky—ugh! how you can drink such stuff I can't imagine—is on the topshelf in the cheffonier; your boots and leggings are in the right-hand cupboard in the kitchen, and anything else you may want you must look for. I am going to bed, and if you are very long I shall put the gas out. You make enough fuss if I happen to leave the gas stove alight, but you never think of the wilful waste you cause by sitting up so late at night."

And off to bed went one of the prettiest and best wives a man ever had, her only fault being a firmly-rooted objection to my "going a-fishing." But, nevertheless, she is always as pleased as the proverbial puppy with two tails when, after a big day, my fishing chums assemble, admire my catch, and congratulate me upon my success.

I shall never forget the time she "salted" my livebait. I had as pretty a lot of dace in the tank at that time as ever man set eyes on. One night I had an extra fourpennyworth at the club meeting, and invited a few chums home to have a glass and chat. We passed the bottle and "jawed" 'till early morn, and then parted the most affectionate of friends. I did get a lecture, you just bet. My better half informed me—

"I'll have no more of this sort of game. If you won't to drink and talk all night with a lot of lazy, good-for-nothings, do it at your club, I'll have none of it here. And what's more, I won't be bothered and troubled with those nasty, splashing fishes out on my sink any more!"

And she kept her word, for the very next time I visited my tank I found the whole lot belly upwards. It was a mystery to me until my wife informed me she had emptied half a box of "Tidman's Sea Salt" among them! There were "ructions" you may guess.

It was Christmas night. We had just bid good-bye to the last of our friends, and I, made bold by a bumper of Irish hot, had informed my partner for life that I had made arrangements with my friend H—g to go pike fishing on the following day. She, of course, could not understand that all that is wanted is the prospect of a big day to make an angler forget that other individuals are snoozing over a big fire with the curtains drawn on such a day as Boxing Day, 1883, gave every promise of being. And sure enough it was a very nasty, foggy morning when I jumped out of bed and had a look at the weather. (I wonder if the angler is living who does not examine the state of the weather, and direction of wind, the very first thing, when he is going for a big day? And yet some of my biggest days have been when weather and wind would make you think it would be best to stop at home.)

I had just got the coffee hot when the usual low rat-tat-tat at the door told me my friend was punctual. In he came, and over a steaming cup of the liquor that renovates the functions without creating any derangement of the nerves we quietly discussed our chances for the day. H—g was as full of hope as a kitten is of fleas; and everything being ready, we started for H—h Street, M—e, where, true to time, a turn out, bearing all the outward resemblance of a horse and dog-cart, awaited us. Off we drove, and after a journey of about eight miles, arrived at our destination. The fog meanwhile having cleared a bit, and a slight breeze arising gave promise of dispersing it altogether before long.

We soon had a couple of nice lively dace in two very promising spots, and while I was fitting up a spinning bait, and H—g was putting his bottom tackle together, our worthy host made his appearance. A hearty shake of the hand and an invitation to dine with him when we were tired of fishing was just the sort of introduction I like to have to a new friend. I at once jumped to the conclusion that he was an angler, and so he turned out to be. He gave us a little useful information as to where the big 'uns lay, and promising to join us before long, wished us good luck and left us for a time.

H—g is a great bottom-fisher, and a firm believer in gentles for bait. Having put his tackle together and started at a very pretty-looking swim, he turned to me and said:

"Who would be without a clay pipe, old man, eh? If there is anything good under the sun it is a strong clay pipe. Now, this is one," holding up a specimen that would disgrace a coal-heaver; "is just in prime trim. Hand me over the cut cavendish, will you?"

I obeyed, and was just starting spinning when the distorted visage of my friend attracted my attention.

"What's a matter?" I asked.

"I can't make out," he answered; "the pipe won't draw."

It certainly appeared, from the contortions of his features, that it

would not. Pull at that pipe he certainly did, but draw it most decidedly would not.

"Knock it out," I said; "I expect it's stopped up."

And stopped up it was! One of his pet fat gentles, about half an inch long, had partly inserted itself into the stem; and if he had pulled till now I question if he would have succeeded in making his favourite clay draw.

Leaving him to pick it out with a baiting needle, I turned my attention to the live baits, one of which was making frantic efforts to escape from an enemy. I had hardly time to place my hand on the rod before the float disappeared with a steady dive, and in two-two's I had struck, and was deep into a good fish, which, after showing a good fight, succumbed to superior power, and was neatly and successfully gaffed by H—g, proving to be a pike in good condition that turned the scale at 13½ lb. Before I had time to put on a fresh bait, I had the pleasure of gaffing one for my friend that weighed 7½ lb. This was a capital beginning, and we soon had our lines out again. Our pocket pistols were produced, and having drunk "De ath to all pike," we stood eagerly expecting another run; but having waited a short time, H—g turned to his bottom fishing, and I walked a little way ahead and had a turn at spinning. At my third cast I had a knock, and was soon busy playing a very fine perch, which I grassed without much trouble; he weighed 1½ lb. While disengaging the hooks from his throat I was recalled by H—g, who had by this time obtained another run. I gaffed the fish for him (a jack of 6 lb.), and noticing several violent movements on the part of my bait, at once gave my attention to the rod and line, and not a moment too soon. Down went the float. I struck, and soon after had the pleasure of placing another pike (8 lb.) on the bank. Another bait has hardly got into the water before the float disappears, and again H—g's services are required with the gaff, our quarry this time proving to be a pike of 5 lb. It was a beautiful sight to see those six elegant fish jumping on the bank, all alive together. Another bait, and we have time to take a pull at our whiskey flasks. Things then slacken off altogether, so we load our pipes and turn to greet our host, who has returned, and is admiring our catch.

"There are some fine perch in the pond," he remarks. "I generally fish for them with a lob-worm, and thinking perhaps you had not provided yourselves with any I have brought some out with me."

H—g, who has not succeeded with his gentles, takes the worms, and placing one on his tackle, fishing in mid-water, soon has the pleasure of landing a splendid specimen of the *perca fluviatilis*, which proved to weigh 1½ lb. Within twenty minutes he had two others, one 1½ lb. and one 2 lb. I never saw such splendid fellows before.

Matters quieted down after this, and as the pike seemed gone off, and H—g did not succeed in grassing any more perch, we decided to adjourn to the house, having previously placed three fresh bait on our hooks, I having taken off my spinning flight, and fitted up a live snap in its place.

After dinner our worthy host showed us some specimen fish, which were very beautifully mounted, one pike of 23 lb. being a perfect picture. On asking where he succeeded in capturing so fine a specimen, we were informed that, within a foot or so, it was caught in the same spot as I had captured my 13½ lb. fish in the morning. Two perch in a case made as pretty a pair as any angler need wish to gaze upon, their weights being 2 lb. and 2½ lb. Old angling books, and a heap of tackle of every description whetted our appetite for a further knowledge of our new friend; and it was agreed that some evening before long we should meet and have a long chat over our past victories and experience. Should I learn anything that I think would enlighten or please my readers, you may be sure I shall have pleasure in giving a full account of our interview.

As we had been absent nearly an hour from our baits, I suggested that we should, without further delay, at once continue our fishing. H—g being agreeable, we once more showed up on the bank, where a somewhat startling discovery was made. H—g had been in great expectation of landing at least a 20 lb. fish; he argued that, at any rate, one of the baits must be taken by this time. Our surprise, then, can be imagined when we looked in vain for our rods! Not only had our baits all been taken, but our lines and rods as well.

"Surely," said H—g, in a voice that greatly reminded me of another occasion, when he came out with me and found he had left the top joint of his favourite rod at home, "surely, no one has stolen our tackle!"

"It looks most uncommonly like it," I replied.

And certainly it did. But our minds were soon put at rest on that point, for close under a tree lay the three rods, carefully placed together. While we were wondering how on earth they came there, and for what reason they had been taken from the pond, a youthful chawbacca, with a face on him like a full moon, approached us, and at once explained the mystery. Touching his hat, he said:

"Oive landed three for ye, zur; they're not werry big 'uns tho'. Whort licks me is that they wur all cort in the back!"

I always thought a London cabby a good hand with his tongue until I heard H—g indulge in a little choice language, after our small friend had enlightened us as to how our tackle became placed under the tree. I certainly felt somewhat inclined to launch out a little myself; but thinking, after all, it was our own fault, I kept my mouth closed, and satisfied myself with looking daggers at the cause of H—g's rage, whose face, meanwhile, underwent a surprising transformation, and whose form gradually faded from view, followed by a most energetic string of blessings from my friend, who immediately turned to me and burst into a fit of laughter, in which I joined.

To make up for lost time, we immediately threw out our baits, and at a crack, H—g's float was gone. A minute or two after I had the pleasure of gaffing a nice pike for him, weighing 7 lb., and this proved to be our last fish. We tried spinning and dead gorge to no purpose, and, as it was now getting dark, we gave over, very well satisfied with our day's sport.

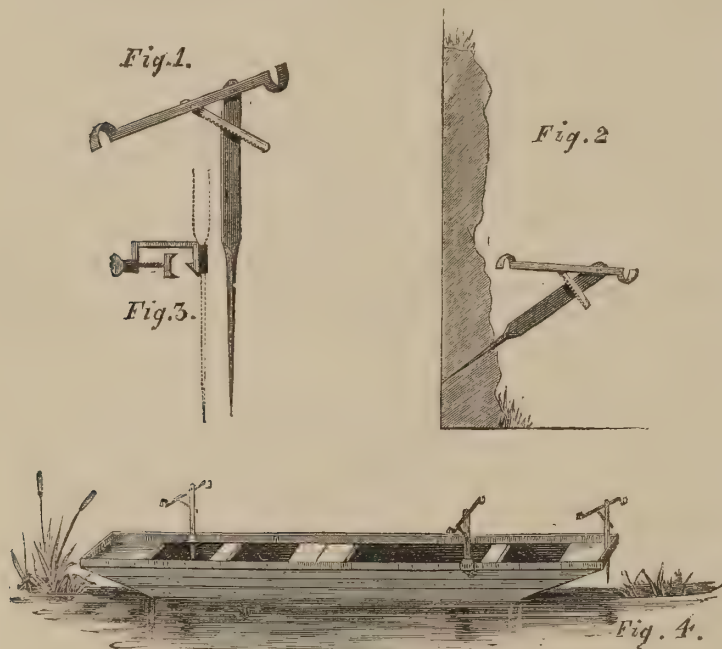
We had our horse put to, and started for home. On our way we met with a curious adventure, the particulars of which I will impart to you in another paper before long. Ultimately we arrived home in safety, and you may be sure my wife was, on this occasion, pleased to see us, for this was one of our big days, not so much in the number of fish caught, as in their condition and size. When we weighed them we found we had six pike, weighing 47 lb., and four perch that brought down the scale at 6½ lb.

Now, Mr. Editor, you must agree with me that we had "not at all a bad day's sport."

["Pixie" will appreciate this article, especially the first part of it. So will every angler who is in the same boat—eh Mr. Walbran? What a lucky thing it is our wives do not always read the FISHING GAZETTE.—ED.]

THE ADJUSTABLE FISHING ROD HOLDER.

IN the course of the year a great many inventors call upon us to ask our opinion as to whether this or that or the other is worth patenting. In the majority of cases we are obliged to point out that the thing has been done already. We always feel an interest in these inventions, and are always glad to recognise anything likely to be of value to anglers. Some time last year the inventor of the "Adjustable Fishing Rod Holder" called on us with a model, and we at once advised him that he had hit on a really good thing, and one that would be bound to sell, and sell well. He has had it patented, and has taken considerable orders already.



The following are the advantages claimed for it by the inventor:—

In many kinds of angling it is desirable that the rod should remain held in a certain place at a certain angle.

This invention (fig. 1) is an "Adjustable Fishing Rod Holder," which can be fixed in the bank, or upon the bough of a tree or side of a boat or punt. In calling the attention of anglers to this long-felt want, the inventor begs to point out a few of the many advantages arising from its use, which he, as a practical angler, has discovered.

- I.—The rod can be fixed so that the butt end comes to the edge of the water, thus bringing the full length of the rod into use.
- II.—The rod holder can be adjusted so as to fish when the water is bank high or some feet below.
- III.—The rod holder can be stuck into the sheer face of a high bank (fig. 2), and the point of the rod depressed as near the water as desired.
- IV.—The rod is so held that instantly a "bite" is seen one can "strike" as freely as though it had been held in the hand all the time.
- V.—The rod holder can be adjusted to any angle without taking it out of the ground.
- VI.—The rod holder is supplied with or without the "boat clip," which has a setting screw (fig. 3), so that the rod holder may be fixed to the side of a boat or punt (fig. 4) or bough of a tree.
- VII.—In "boat fishing," the same advantages attend the use of the rod holder as when fishing from the bank. All anglers know how awkward it is to have the rod across the boat when laid out of hand.
- VIII.—When using the "rod holder," there is no danger of losing the rod: it cannot roll or tip from the boat or bank, no fish can run off with it, and the pressure of wind only makes it hold tighter.
- IX.—The rod holder holds equally well long or short, thick or thin, light or heavy rods; in fact, it is so adapted that the greater the strain the greater the security.
- X.—The rod holder when not in use will close up in such a small compass that it may easily be carried in the bag, basket, or pocket, its weight being but a few ounces.

Having given this little invention a pretty severe trial with an 18-foot cane rod in a stiff breeze, we can testify to its extreme simplicity and utility, and other advantages which are quite fairly set out in the above illustrated description. It is brought out by Messrs. C. L. Mathews and Co., 1A, Wynyatt Street, St. John Street Road, London, E.C., and the price brings it within the reach of even the poorest angler. We intend to use it always in future when fishing for carp, bream, pike, perch, tench, eels, &c., in still water or when ledgering from the bank of a stream.

The pointed stem should be at least 4 inches longer, as the present hold is hardly sufficient in loose sandy soil, when a heavy rod is used. This is the only improvement we can suggest, and we understand Messrs. Mathews are now making them with longer stems. They have kindly promised us several as prizes for the Tournament.

ON A YORKSHIRE CHALK STREAM.

BY FRANCIS M. WALBRAN.

FOR some weeks previous to Whitsuntide I had been debating in my mind where I should go fishing during the holidays, but could arrive at no satisfactory conclusion, for I knew well from experience that at such times almost every available piece of water in Yorkshire is inundated with anglers. Great was my delight, therefore, to receive a letter from a noted Wharfedale fisherman giving me an invitation to fish with him for a couple of days upon a length of trout water, which partakes of that character so tantalisingly described in the "Anglers' Diary" as "permission impossible."

Monday morning arrived, bright and sunny, but with a touch of easterly wind in the air, and before 8 o'clock a.m. we were journeying towards Leeds, where we caught the express that was to bear us to our destination. The time passed pleasantly enough in angling chat (other two members of the club joining us at a station further on the line), and at 11.30 we stepped on to the platform of a rustic station with sou's "all eager for the fray."

"Well, C., are the fish rising?" exclaimed my companion to the keeper, who had by this time appeared upon the scene.

"Aye, sir. I saw some grand 'uns showing up on the top dam as I came along just now; but I am afraid you'll find the wind awkward," he added, by way of parenthesis.

The stream that we were going to fish upon is similar in character to the rivers in the southern counties, having, for the most part, a chalky bottom, with here and there a stretch of golden gravel; beds of weeds extending in some places to the centre of the stream, under which the fish have splendid shelter. My companions being members of the club, the keeper left them to select their own ground, and walked down to the river with me, in order that he might show me a likely place to commence upon. The water was as clear as crystal, so I selected the finest drawn gut cast that I could find, and attached a yellow dun as point and an iron blue dun as dropper, deeming two flies sufficient.

One or two fine trout were sailing leisurely round a small pool below a mill sluice, and I carefully covered them. One of them veered round and made close inspection of my yellow dun, but retired without rising; so after another cast or two I sauntered on down stream, telling the keeper that I would call in at his cottage in the evening for a cup of tea, after which he promised to accompany me to one or two likely spots.

The wind increased, and at length became perfectly intolerable, for if I tried to make a delicate cast over a rising fish, a sudden gust would be certain to double up my flies and cause a splash that sent him to shelter under the weeds with a derisive wave of his broad tail. In addition to that it was impossible to hook them properly, owing to the difficulty that I experienced in keeping the line taut, so that I lost fish after fish in a most exasperating manner, and although I landed several under the standard measure (which is 10 inches), it was almost four o'clock in the afternoon before I succeeded in creeling a nice, plump trout, weighing about 1 lb. I determined, therefore, to reserve myself for the evening fishing, and, accordingly, wended my way to the keeper's cottage. His wife soon prepared a cup of tea for me, which, together with new laid eggs, fresh salad, and home-made bread and butter, I thoroughly enjoyed. Tea finished, I smoked a pipe or two while I conversed with C. upon angling matters generally until about seven o'clock, when we once more sallied forth to the mill pool alluded to above. As the sluices were open, a good body of water was now running through the centre of this pool. In one corner was a backwater, which ran in under the shelter of some hawthorn bushes, and, peering through them, I observed about a dozen good trout sucking in every insect that came down to them from the main stream. Lengthening out line, I cast my flies straight into the current, and, raising the point of my rod, allowed them to sweep round into the eddy. Up came a beauty at once, and the next moment my rod bent almost double as the fish rushed down into the pool below. Carefully I played him out, and C. scooped out another pounder to bear his brother in my creel company. I will not weary your readers by recounting all the details of my evening's sport, but when we left the pool, at 9.30, two brace of lovely trout graced my basket, and I had hooked and lost fully half a dozen good fish besides. Towards dusk I had put on as point one of Mr. McNee's pike-scale flies—it was out of half a dozen given to me last autumn by Mr. R. B. Marston; it is a small hare's ear dun, with plain, uncoloured scale wings and a red tail. I found it answer famously, especially with fish that were rising under the opposite bank.

"We shall have a hot day to-morrow, sir," remarked C., as I left him at the corner of the laue.

"Sorry to hear it," I replied; "I should much prefer a wet one. However, anyway, I will call at your house at nine o'clock in the morning prompt. Good night."

And away I went to my inn, where I found a substantial supper awaiting me; after which, a glass of "Scotch," a last pipe, and then to bed, hoping for better sport on the morrow. I should here mention that my companions were staying at an hotel on the lower portion of the stream.

(To be continued.)

ON THE DESCRIPTION OF SALMON FLIES.

By Mr. GEO. M. KELSON.

MAJOR TRAHERNE'S PATTERNS—(Continued).

No. 4.—QUINCHAT.

THAT natural hackles must sooner or later come into fashion, seems to me to be a foregone conclusion; so many are the advantages we derive from them, that it is almost surprising the old standard patterns are having such a long day. Only half the amount of feather is required, and therefore bodies of flies are not so liable to be clogged with superfluous material, which always tends to skirt the water. Moreover, they never fade, and if they happen to lose a trifle of their brilliancy, it is so infinitesimal that their value practically does not suffer. They rarely change appearance in the water like the others. And we can shift them from old flies to new without sacrificing more than the four or five fibres, which would otherwise be stripped off for a hook one size less. Our tinsels and lace do not become tarnished by coming in contact with some injurious chemical from the dyer's mixture; and they are also superior, because they are more fatally attractive, which, though mentioned last, should be the primary consideration.

There is no work that I am aware of which enters with any fulness in a true and practical manner into the subject-matter of these articles. Those amateurs whose studies in the language of feathers have been fuller and riper than my own—those who admire the art of fly-dressing merely for its own sake—would surely wish to see its elements made accessible to all salmon fishermen, were it only that they may be the more thoroughly examined into, and therefore the more effectually developed. I purpose after the hackle question is ventilated, to make some allusions to the subject from the beginning to the end; perhaps from the legs to the bodies upon which these plumes are placed. I have elected to take this step since skimming that genius, "Blacker," which book has been kindly sent up by Mr. Marston.

The instruction it contains for whipping up flies, to use a mild term, is rubbish; I was under the impression "Blacker on Flies" was a great work. His reputation was decidedly great, but in the three attributes of genius, *feeling and perseverance* reigned apparently in such profusion, that *understanding* must have been left out in the cold.

The multitude of somewhat similar books of this description which modern readers wade through may produce distraction as much as culture, the process leaving no more definite impression upon the mind than gazing through the shifting forms in a kaleidoscope does upon the eye. Reading is often but a mere passive reception of other men's thoughts, there being little or no active effort of the mind in the transaction. Then how much of our reading is but the indulgence of a sort of excitement for the moment only, without the slightest effect in improving us? It is really useless to tell the uninitiated "to get a bit of feather and tie it on a hook"; you might as well give them an order from a "Brum" or a "Chat," and expect to receive the contract note.

Upon this subject, I quite think the time has arrived for a new road of observation, attention, and industry.

Is it not impossible for the tyro to "see through" a salmon fly? And many of us are even apt to fall into the extreme of condemning anything in this commodity which is modern, and estimating too highly the value of past produce.

Perhaps it is not always necessary to make flies as evenly and perfectly as the representation in our illustration; but I do wish to urge that when salmon are hard to please,—when twenty rods are at work and about a couple of the "infallibles" walk home with a fish, it is invariably the master hands,—those who know how to make and how to use the fly,—those who intuitively put just the amount of material, and no more, on the hook in the right place, as to make the lure swim so truly, so temptingly, that even the sulky salmon on the most unlikely day is moved into activity.

"A fly to fish well, and how to make it," would possibly interest some of my readers, and this would be an interesting subject from time to time, as I wend my way for the future.

We now and then hear of salmon being taken "on the rough," making use of a hackneyed expression, when the fly is not fished, but snatched over the catch; the line making "duck trails" on the surface while the bait below is engaged in acrobatic performances. Only last year, at Ringwood, Col. B., passing from pool to pool wetting an "Eagle" in eighteen inches of water, hooked and gaffed a 42 lb. fresh-run fish. This season, in Lady Mill's water, on the Test, after a month's had just acknowledged two offers from Mr. B. F., one of the best anglers and fly makers living, accepted from this gentleman a giant "blue jay" (local name, something after the blue Doctor, with jay feather cheeks), and was lugged out under a scorching sun in the middle of the day. I know this pretty little bit of drawing-

room fishing well from the opposite bank; and in spring it is usually haunted by magnificent salmon; the average this year is upwards of 20 lb. for forty fish.

So it will be seen that there is another exception to the rule; but one can scarcely be too particular in the management of seal's fur feather, and hackle, either in the workshop, or afterwards when worked over a catch.

The fly that I illustrate this week is a picture. The customary charm of harmony is most favourably expressed. It is rather a difficult fly to dress to swim truly, but such obstacles vanish before determined effort.



MAJOR TRAHERNE'S PATTERNS OF SALMON FLIES.—No. 4.

Quinchat is well worth a deal of painstaking. It is another fly that is better dressed large, and therefore not a summer pattern anywhere, but would be a splendid change in every district.

It is described:—

Tag: Silver twist, and purple silk (same shade as throat of blue chatterer).

Tail: Topping.

Butt: Black herl.

Body: In five sections, each increasing in length as illustrated. The first part is red silk, the same shade as the points of the red crow; one of these feathers, it will be observed, is above and below. The remaining four divisions are light blue silk, the same colour as the light blue chatterer hackles at the termination of the second and third partition. (These feathers are from the top of the tail.) At the end of the fourth and fifth divisions the hackles are light blue macaw.

Ribbed: Oval tinsel.

Throat: Yellow macaw (flank feather).

Wings: Two blue macaw feathers. The feathers which are over them (extended cheeks) are green macaw.

Cheeks: Indian (red) crow. Two toppings over.

Horns: Red macaw (double).

Head: Black herl.

I have never tried it, and, therefore, say but little; but of this fly rumour runs high, accrediting it with having killed five heavy salmon before sunset one evening, and nearly settling five men before the sun rose. We may assume that the chat of the quintette was joyous and festive indeed.

Fishermen may chiefly be attracted by its brilliance, its beauty; if a fly can be too beautiful, it is a charming blemish in bright weather.

However, it presents the same features of intimate knowledge, and carefulness of detail which characterised those which preceded it, and is destined to become a great favourite in the spring of the year.

My description is somewhat irregular, but I have worded it so that it may read easier to young dressers.

"Quinchat" may be purchased at the same firms I have mentioned heretofore.

A SHOWER OF FISH.

(From the *Times of India*, May 15, 1884.)

"THE following letter appears in the *Indian Daily News*:—

"SIR,—Allow me to send you herewith a few (4) of a lot of fish which were found to-day after the rain, jumping about on the grass. They were caught by a young European assistant of the Targrah Tannery. The natives declare that no such fish are to be found hereabouts, neither in the canal nor in the tanks. They are certainly very curious creatures, and can walk with great ease. The natives are quite certain they must have come down with the rain; I can hardly believe it, as they do not much look like flying fish.—Yours, &c.—D. F.—May 9, 1884.

"The fish sent us are four particularly lively specimens of the *Ku'wy*. As soon as the *hanai* which held them was uncovered, they set out in their travels all about the room, wriggling over the mat with no little speed, and apparently without inconvenience. The *Ku'wy*, *Corus cabojus*, the eighth of nine species of which the well-known *Bnekti* is one, is found everywhere in the marshes, ditches, and ponds of India. It is very common in the marshes of the Jessore district, from whence it is chiefly supplied for the Calcutta markets.

It is extremely tenacious of life, and is imported by boat-loads, and kept alive without water until sold. The *Ku'wy* seldom exceeds six inches in length, and though abounding in sharp bones, is much used by the natives of Calcutta especially. The women believe that it increases their nourishment when nursing, and the men that it possesses great powers to invigorate. The *Cabojuis* is identical with the *Lutjanus Scandens* of La Cepede, one of the fishes supposed to fall with the rains from the clouds—the *Guhua Ophiocephalus gachua* is another—and further, though erroneously, is believed by some natives to possess the power of climbing trees. It is possible these *Ku'wy* fish sent us by our correspondent have taken advantage of the heavy downpours of the past few days to leave their ditches and ponds, and to seek in the moist grass a variety or a new source of food. The power which the *Ku'wy* has of living without being immersed in water would enable it to extend its travels for some distance in search of a new locality, or a more abundant supply of food.—ED. *I. D. News.*

SALMO FONTINALIS AND SALMO FARIO.

OUR readers will remember that some little time back we wrote strongly against the introduction of the American brook trout, or *Salmo fontinalis*, into English trout streams for the reason that the fish is a char, and will only thrive well in waters which suit char. In *Forest and Stream* the editor quoted our remarks, and asked for opinions on the characteristics of English and American trout from such of his readers as had some experience of both fish. This invitation produced interesting letters, from which we quote the following:—

THE ENGLISH AND AMERICAN TROUT.

(To the Editor of *Forest and Stream*.)

I have noticed your article on this subject, and also that of "G. V. S." in our last issue. The question of superiority is one that can only be decided by those familiar with both species, and even then their judgment may be influenced by questions of taste or by pleasant memories. Like "G. V. S.," I have taken trout in England, Scotland, and America, and therefore am entitled to have opinions on this subject.

The fish are quite different, and therefore easy to compare. The American brook trout does not frequent large streams, and requires colder water than the English trout. It is not so wary, as a rule, and takes the fly more readily and does not need to be fished for as delicately as is done in England. There are said to be one or two exceptions to this rule, on certain streams, but there is no doubt of its truth. On many English streams the fish can only be taken with a dry fly, a practice unknown, so far as I know, in America. "G. V. S." says as much when he remarked that the average British sportsman would find the trout in Maine "more stupid and easier to kill, and decidedly a less worthy match for his skill than the English trout." With him I think there is but little difference in their table qualities, but in their sporting values I think there is much.

The *salmo fario* is superior to the *fontinalis*, as a game fish. It is wrier, gamier, and therefore more satisfactory. It will fight harder, ounce for ounce, than the American fish, and I cannot agree with you that the latter is the handsomest fish. Like all char, the American trout is red-bellied, but it is not as graceful in form nor does it present as beautiful shades of colour as the English trout. If the latter could be introduced into this country by some club, they would then be able to compare the gameness of the two fish, and I do not doubt that they would sustain my views in time.

R. P.

As we said when advising our readers not to waste money by buying *S. fontinalis* to stock waters with, it is undoubtedly a fine American game fish, and great hopes were entertained that it would do well in this country; but the fact remains that it has not done well. Many hundred thousands of them during the last ten or twelve years have been placed in English streams, but we cannot point to a single instance where they have established themselves and increased in numbers, and afforded the sport which was expected from their high reputation in America. So far as we can learn, a few have been caught a season or two after their introduction, but the rest have unaccountably disappeared. We fully expected, after our remarks on this fish last year, that some of those gentlemen who sell them for stocking waters would have written to give their reasons for continuing to supply to the public a fish which experience has proved to be almost, if not quite, useless in this country. Sir James Maitland, in his latest "Circular" describing the fish he has to sell, frankly admits that the *fontinalis* is not a fish likely to afford the fly-fisher much sport. The only places where we can learn that this fish has done well are in cold Scotch lochs, and in such places we see no reason why they should not succeed. The Otley club placed some thousands of yearling *fontinalis* into their water on the Wharfe: perhaps Mr. Walbran, or Mr. Pratt, the secretary of the club, will kindly tell us if they have answered expectations? What has become of the thousands of *fontinalis* which have been placed in the Thames and other rivers? We need hardly say we have no prejudice against a fish which has such a deservedly high reputation in America, but we think it is quite time English pisciculturists asked themselves whether results justified them in continuing to sell it as a suitable fish for our English waters. The

fact that it is not, strictly speaking, a trout at all, but a true char, points to the real cause of its failure in our streams. We are well aware that there is no great difficulty in growing it in captivity, when it is fed regularly on food thrown in for it; our own English char has been kept for years in aquariums, but this is a very different thing from its successful life in an open river, and we shall be glad to hear of any well-authenticated instances where the *fontinalis* has increased in numbers or afforded sport equal to that given by trout, when placed into rivers in this country. There is no better fish to stock our English rivers with than our English trout.

ISYS TO IZAAK.

(ON THE BI-CENTENARY OF HIS DEATH, DEC. 15, 1883.)

By COTSWOLD ISYS, M.A.,
Author of "An Angler's Strange Experiences."

I.

Great Master who didst first impart
That passion for the gentle art
Which puls'd within my youthful heart,
I wish, for thy sake,
That sweet, idyllic, pastoral muse
Which shed on thee Castalian dews,
Would into this my song infuse
Thy soul, good *Izaak*.

II.

While to thyself I fain would pay
The homage of a worthy lay!
Then, harken *Muse*, as thus I pray,
And Attic salt on
My verse, so burden'd, sprinkle! Deign
To breathe thine influence on the strain
That would some lofty note attain
In praise of *Walton*.

III.

Thy name, O *Wa'ton's*, like a breeze
Of summer through the alder trees,
Breathing sweet country fragrances;
While thy pure pages
Are like those sheets of linen prime,
Perfum'd with lavender and thyme,
That wrapt thy bed and scent thy rhyme
And prose for ages.

IV.

Reading thy page we seem to see
And hear thy "scholar" chat with thee,
As toward thy much-lov'd river *Lea*
Ye gallily trot on;
Or still beside the banks of *Dore*—
The river of thine equal love—
Behold ye as ye fish and rove,
Thyself and *Cotton*.*

V.

Wherein doth lie that nameless spell
That in thy charmed style doth dwell?
Tis found in one sweet syllable—
Love!—love, not lucre,
Nor fame, but love inspir'd thy pen,
Whether it wrote of fish or men,
When fish to hook, its theme; or when
"The Life of *Hooker*," †

VI.

Above two centuries thy word ‡
Hath hover'd like the holy bird,
And still thy calming voice is heard
Mid strife and jostle:
Thou art as to the wheel the grease;
Like balm that bids the fever cease,
The Laureate of holy Peace,
Content's Apostle.

VII.

Wise, but not dull; tho' grave, yet gay;
Sober as Autumn, bright as May;
Of fishing-lore, thou art for aye
The Senior Wrangler:
Wit fills thy head, and grace thy heart;
Or wielding rod or pen, thou art
Unrivall'd, and in every part
A "Complete Angler." §

VIII.

O life to envy, course and close!
As calm and white as Alpine snows,
Yet blooming bright as summer rose,
Sweet odours rich in!
Be "Requiescat" fondly said
Above thy venerable head,
Which lies in fit sepulchral bed
Beside the *Itchen*! ||

* *Cotton* was *Walton's* great friend: he wrote a second part to "The Complete Angler."

† *Izaak Walton* was the author of "The Life of *Hooker*," the great Church of England Divine.

‡ He was born in 1593, and died in 1683.

§ The title, as everybody knows, of his immortal work.

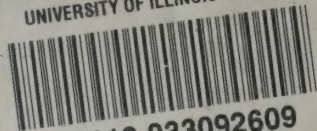
|| He lies buried (which everybody does not know) in Winchester Cathedral, near to the celebrated trout stream, the *Itchen*.

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